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A/PROV

Atty. Dkt. No. SDUC1100
(041673-3101)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Goodman and Seong
Title: DENDRIMERS AS MOLECULAR
TRANSLOCATORS
Appl. No.: Unknown
Filing Date: Unknown
Examiner: Unknown
Art Unit: Unknown

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PROVISIONAL PATENT APPLICATION
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Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(c) is the provisional patent application of:

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☒ Applicant claims small entity status under 37 CFR 1.27(c)(1).

Enclosed are:

- ☒ Specification, Claim(s), and Abstract (151 pages).
- ☒ Formal drawings (37 sheets, Figures 1-34).
- ☐ Assignment of the invention to University of California, San Diego.

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- ☐ Assignment Recordation Cover Sheet.
- ☐ Small Entity statement(s).
- ☒ Application Data Sheet (37 CFR 1.76).

The filing fee is calculated below:

	Rate	Fee Totals
Basic Fee	\$160.00	\$160.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Small Entity Fees Apply (subtract ½ of above):	=	\$80.00
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- ☒ A check in the amount of \$80.00 to cover the filing fee is enclosed.
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- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0872. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Assistant Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 50-0872.

Atty. Dkt. No. SDUC1100
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Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney or agent at the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date 7/19/02

By Stephen E. Reiter

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Application Data Sheet**Application Information**

Application Type::	Provisional
Subject Matter::	Utility
Suggested classification::	
Suggested Group Art Unit::	
CD-ROM or CD-R?::	None
Computer Readable Form (CRF)?::	No
Title::	DENDRIMERS AS MOLECULAR TRANSLOCATORS
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Total Drawing Sheets::	37
Small Entity?::	Yes
Petition included?::	No
Secrecy Order in Parent Appl.?::	No

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Assignee Information

Assignee name:: University of California, San Diego

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<p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY "EXPRESS MAIL"</p> <p>"EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NUMBER EV 003431662 US</p> <p>DATE OF DEPOSIT July 19, 2002</p> <p>I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER OR FEE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10 ON THE DATE INDICATED ABOVE AND IS ADDRESSED TO THE ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS, BOX PATENT APPLICATION, WASHINGTON, D C 20231</p> <p>MERCEDES F. DIPASUPIL (TYPED OR PRINTED NAME OF PERSON MAILING PAPER)</p> <p><i>Mercedes F. Dipasupil</i> (SIGNATURE OF PERSON MAILING PAPER OR FEE)</p>

PROVISIONAL
APPLICATION

UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

on

DENDRIMERS AS MOLECULAR TRANSLOCATORS

by

Murray Goodman

Churl Min Seong

Sheets of Drawings: 37
Docket No.: SDUC1100
(041673-3101)
Doc. No. 219507.1

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DENDRIMERS AS MOLECULAR TRANSLOCATORS

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

[0001] The present invention relates to dendrimers, to methods of synthesizing dendrimers, and to methods for using dendrimers. The present invention further relates to pharmaceutical formulations that include dendrimers in combination with one or more biologically active molecules.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

[0002] A continuously challenging goal in the development of therapeutically useful drugs is to synthesize biologically active compounds that penetrate cells. Although a large number of drug candidates have been synthesized for the treatment of various diseases during the past few decades, many of these candidates have failed in clinical application because of low bioavailability. Therefore, significant efforts have been undertaken to improve the bioavailability of drugs and to increase their concentration in the bloodstream. The bioavailability of drugs depends significantly on the efficiency of transport into cells, which involves three concurrent steps including administration, membrane penetration, and distribution. To gain high bioavailability, drugs should be sufficiently polar for administration and distribution while sufficiently nonpolar for passive diffusion through the lipid bilayer of cell membranes. As a result, most drugs are limited to a narrow range of physical properties which be effective for the drug delivery process. Many highly promising and important drug candidates often fail to advance clinically because they fall out of this range and cannot achieve the desirable balance of water solubility and passive membrane translocation.

[0003] Recently, several efforts have been disclosed with respect to improving the cellular uptake of drug candidates into cells. See (1) WO 79/00515; (2) WO 94/04686; (3) WO 91/09958; (4) WO 98/52614; (5) Pepinsky, R. B. et al. *DNA Cell Biol.*, 13, p. 1011-1019 (1994); (6) Vocero-Akbani, A. M. et al. *Nat. Med.*, 5, p. 29-33 (1999); (7) Schwarze, S. R. et al. *Science*, 285, p. 1569-1572 (1999); (8) Ryser, H.J.-P. *Nature (London)*, 215, 934-936 (1967); (9) Emi, N. et al. *Biophys. Res.*

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Commun., 231, p 421-424 (1997); (10) Ryser, H. J. -P. et al. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.*, 75, p. 1872-1876 and 3867-3870 (1978); (11) Leonetti, J. -P. et al. *Bioconjugate Chem.*, 1, p. 149-153 (1990); (12) Murphy, J. E. et al. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.*, 95, p. 1517-1522 (1998); (13) Buschle, M. et al. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. USA.*, 94, p. 3256-3261 (1997); (14) Mitchell, D. J. et al. *J. Peptide Res.*, 55, p. 318-325 (2000); and (15) Wender, P. A. et al. *Proc. Natl. Acad. Sci. U.S.A.*, 97, p. 13003 (2000). It has been disclosed that certain naturally occurring macromolecules including the HIV-1 protein Tat enter cells through an active transport mechanism. See references (5)-(7). It has also been reported that arginine-rich fragments of HIV-1 Tat are efficiently internalized by cultured cells. See references (2) and (3). Conjugation of oligo-arginine to small molecules or macromolecules has been disclosed as facilitating the delivery of the attached molecules into cells. See references (14) and (15). References (14) and (15) disclose that peptides containing 6 to 15 contiguous arginine residues can increase cellular uptake of conjugated molecules. These references also disclose that the peptoid analogs of 6 to 9 arginine residue peptides display even higher cellular uptake properties. Additionally, these references report that the chirality of the oligomers is not significant with respect to intracellular translocation and that the distance between the backbone and the guanidine head group of these materials is important in transport activity.

[0004] Despite the apparent success in the use of peptide-based molecule transporters, including peptides and peptoids derived from arginine, lysine (see reference (8)), and ornithine (see reference (9)), such molecules are limited by their toxicity, availability, and cost. Furthermore, peptide-based molecule transporters may not be sufficiently stable toward intracellular and extracellular protease activity. Upon degradation, such molecules lose their efficacy as molecular transporters. In addition, peptide-based molecules also suffer from the drawback that such molecules may trigger antigenic responses and may thus be unsuitable for long term use in a patient. Therefore, a need remains for compounds and methods for transporting biologically active molecules such as drugs into cells which exhibit improved efficacy, stability, and which are not cost-prohibitive.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

[0005] Generally, the invention provides dendrimers, transport molecules, methods for making dendrimers and transport molecules, pharmaceutical formulations that include the dendrimers and transport molecules, methods of increasing the effectiveness of a drug, methods of increasing transport of a biologically active compound across a biological membrane, methods for measuring the uptake of a dendrimer in a cell, methods for administering pharmaceutical agents to a subject, methods for increasing the bioavailability of a drug, kits that include dendrimers and/or transport molecules, and libraries of dendrimers and transport molecules.

[0006] In one aspect, the invention provides a dendrimer that includes at least two branch groups and two or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or more amidines, salts thereof, or protected form thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof. In such dendrimers, at least two of the two or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or more amidines, salts thereof, or protected form thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof are borne at the end of the at least two branch groups. In some such embodiments, the invention provides a dendrimer that includes at least three branch groups and three or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or more amidines, salts thereof, or protected form thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof. In such dendrimers, at least three of the three or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or more amidines, salts thereof, or protected form thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof are borne at the end of the at least three branch groups.

[0007] In some embodiments, the dendrimer includes at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least two branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal

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amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In some such embodiments, the dendrimer includes at least one tetravalent atom that is bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a first tetravalent atom and a second tetravalent atom, and the first tetravalent atom and the second tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In still other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, and a third tetravalent atom, and the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, and the third tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In yet other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, a third tetravalent atom, and a fourth tetravalent atom, and the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, the third tetravalent atom, and the fourth tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups,

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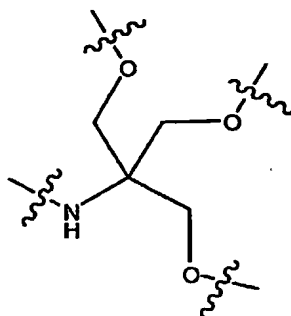
terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0008] In some embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers which possess a degree of symmetry such that each of the guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; each of the amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or each of the ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof is in an identical chemical environment when each of the guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; each of the amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or each of the ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof is either neutrally charged or is protonated.

[0009] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include amide bonds but do not include any peptide linkages. In still other embodiments, the invention provides a dendrimer that includes 3, 6, 9, or 12 guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, protected guanidine groups, amidine groups, protonated amidine groups, protected amidine groups, ureido groups, protonated ureido groups, protected ureido groups, thioureido groups, protonated thioureido groups, or protected thioureido groups.

[0010] In other embodiments, the invention provides a dendrimer that includes at least one residue of tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, and the dendrimer includes at least one group of formula I

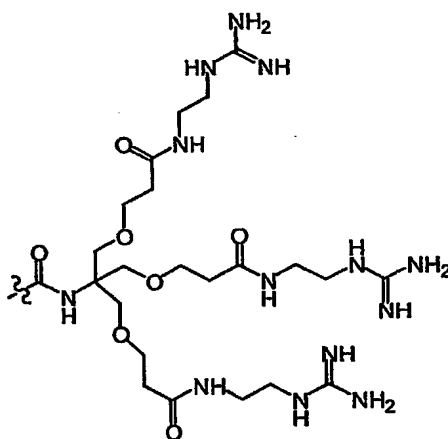
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I.

[0011] In some such embodiments, the dendrimer includes one, two, three, or four groups of formula I.

[0012] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group of formula II or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula II



II.

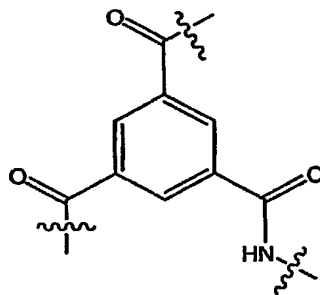
[0013] In some such embodiments, the dendrimer includes one, two, three, or four groups of formula II or protonated or protected forms of the group of formula II.

[0014] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula II wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups. In some

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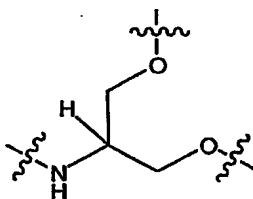
such embodiments, the dendrimer includes one, two, three, or four groups having a structure analogous to that of formula II wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups.

[0015] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having the formula III



III.

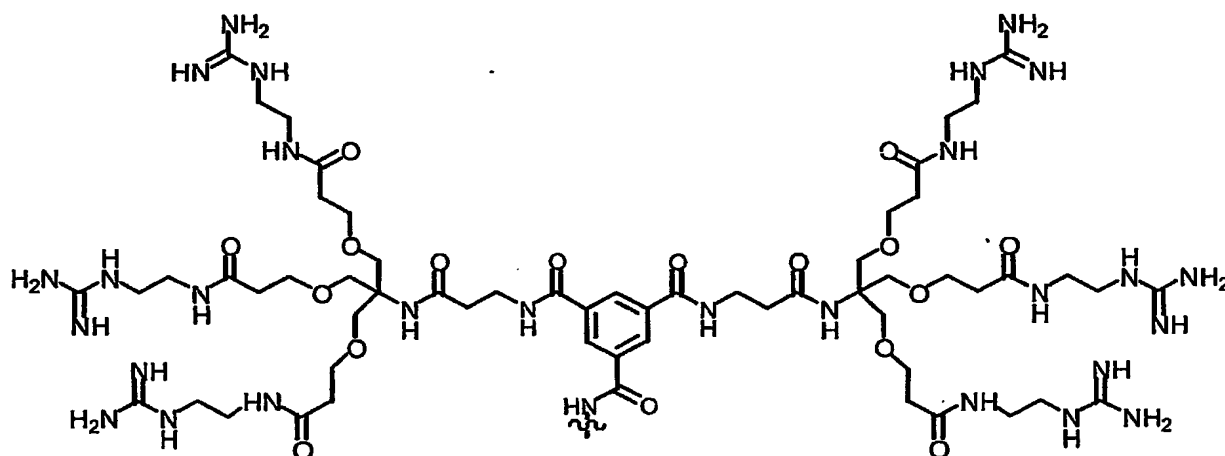
[0016] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having the formula IV



IV.

[0017] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a group of formula V or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula V

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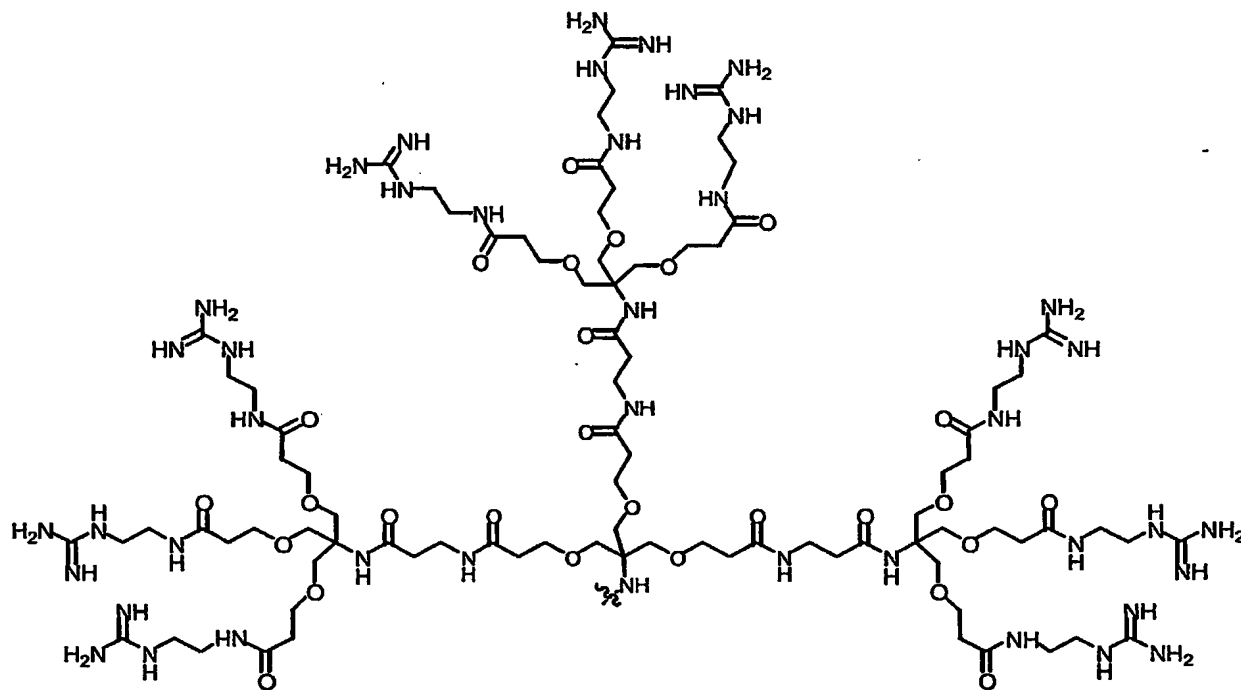


V.

[0018] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula V wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups.

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In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a group of formula VI or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VI

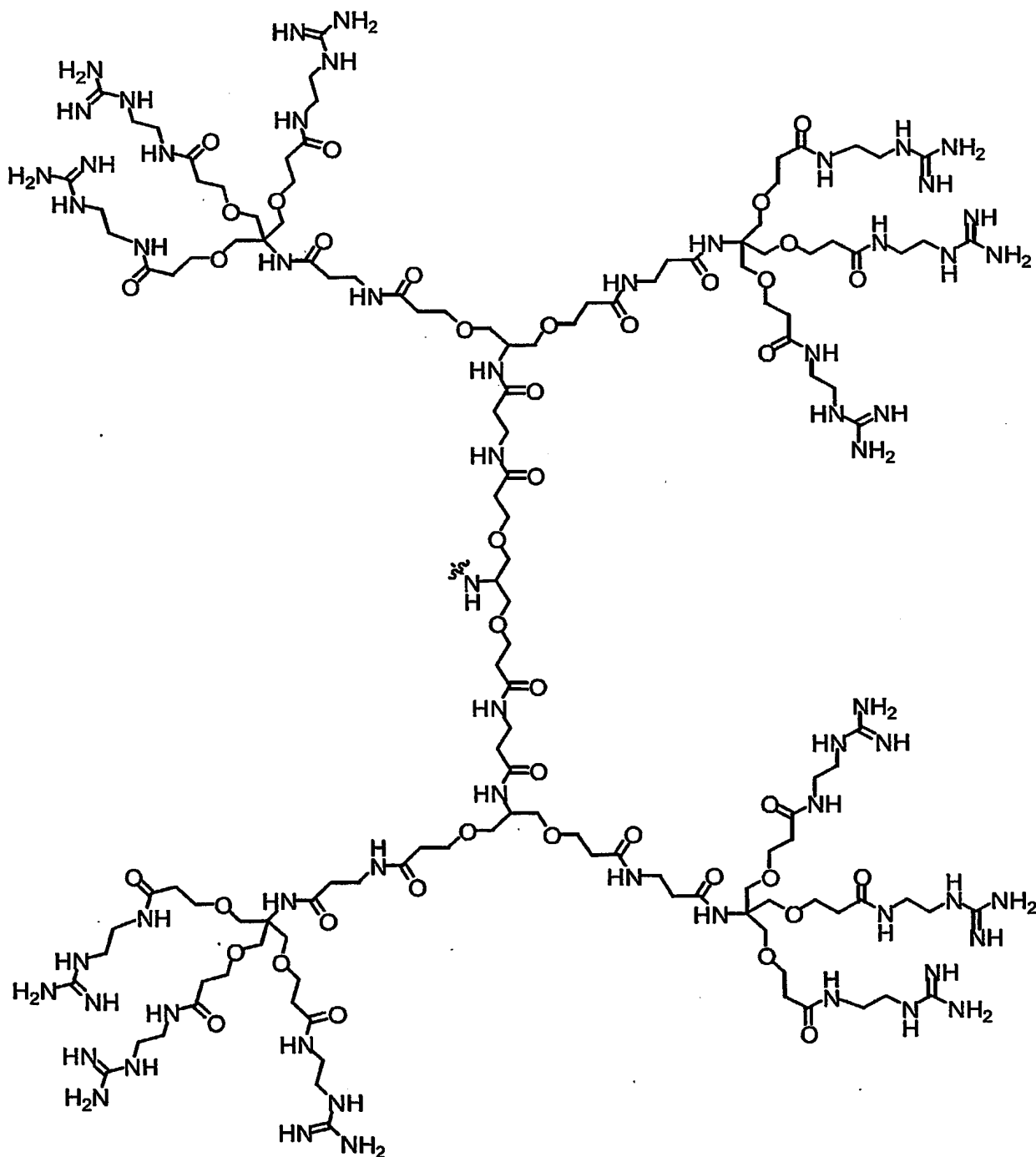


VI.

[0019] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula VI wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups.

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In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a group of formula VII or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VII

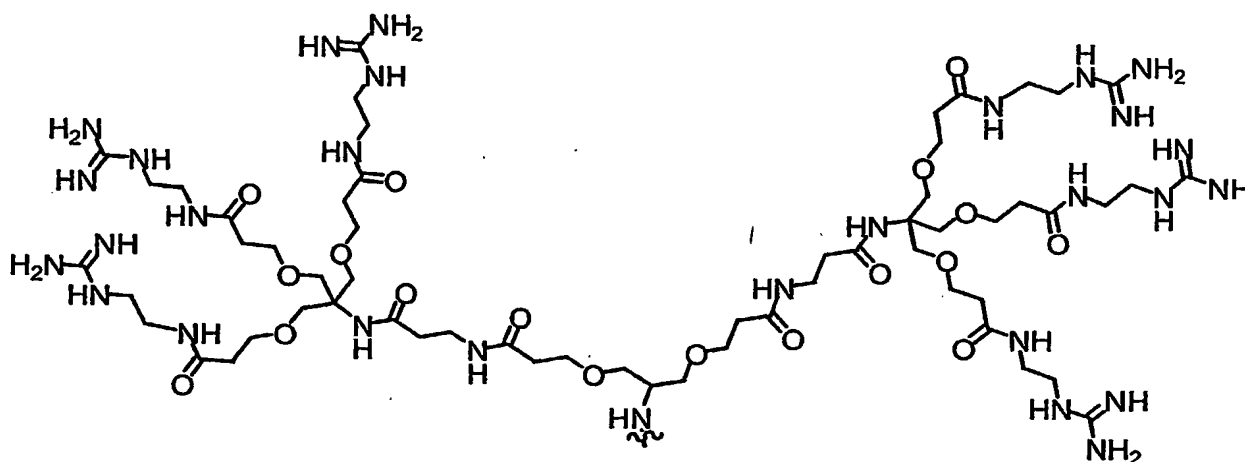


VII.

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[0020] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula VII wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups.

[0021] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a group of formula VIII or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VIII



VIII.

[0022] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula VIII wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups.

[0023] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a detection molecule bonded to the dendrimer. In some such embodiments, the detection molecule is fluorescein. A method of measuring the uptake of a dendrimer in a cell is also provided. The method includes administering to a human, an animal, or a plant a dendrimer that includes a detection molecule that is bonded to the dendrimer.

[0024] The invention also provides a transport molecule. The transport molecule includes a dendrimer and a biologically active molecule. The dendrimer includes at least one guanidine group, a salt of at least one guanidine group, at least

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one protected guanidine group, at least one amidine group, at least one protonated amidine group, at least one protected amidine group, at least one ureido group, at least one protonated ureido group, at least one protected ureido group, at least one thiorueido group, at least one protonated thioureido group, or at least one protected thioureido group, and the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer.

[0025] In some embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least two groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes a first tetravalent atom and a second tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom and the second tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In yet other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, and a third tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, and the third tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine

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groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, a third tetravalent atom, and a fourth tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, the third tetravalent atom, and the fourth tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0026] In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes at least two guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups, and the transport molecule possesses a degree of symmetry such that the at least two guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups are in identical chemical environments when all the guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups of the dendrimer are either neutrally charged or are protonated. In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport

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molecule includes three or more guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups, and the transport molecule possesses a degree of symmetry such that each of the three or more guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups is in an identical chemical environment when each of the three or more guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups is either neutrally charged or is protonated. In still other embodiments, the dendrimer possesses C_{2v} symmetry whereas in other embodiments, the dendrimer possesses C_{3v} symmetry.

[0027] In still other embodiments, the dendrimers includes 3, 6, 9, or 12 guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof.

[0028] In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule does not include arginine or lysine units or residues.

[0029] In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes amide bonds but does not include any peptide linkages.

[0030] In yet other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes a group of formula I, a group of formula II or a protonated or protected form

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of the group of formula II, a group of formula III, a group of formula IV, a group of formula V or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula V, a group of formula VI or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VI, a group of formula VII or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula VII, or a group of formula VIII or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VIII. In some embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes one, two, three, or four groups of formula I or formula II or protonated or protected forms of the group of formula II.

[0031] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula II, formula V, formula VI, formula VII, or formula VIII, wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido or with protonated or protected forms of such groups. This includes embodiments wherein the dendrimer includes one, two, three, or four groups having a structure analogous to that of formula II wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups or protonated or protected forms of such groups.

[0032] In other embodiments, the transport molecule includes a disulfide linkage, an ether linkage, or a thioether linkage, and the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through the disulfide linkage, the ether linkage, or the thioether linkage.

[0033] In other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through an amide or ester linkage.

[0034] In other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through a thiourea group.

[0035] In yet other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer by reaction of a maleimide on the dendrimer with a reactive group on the biologically active molecule.

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[0036] In still other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through a covalent bond which is in some embodiments through a carbon-carbon single bond.

[0037] In still other embodiments, the biologically active molecule bonded to the dendrimer is a drug.

[0038] In still other embodiments, the biologically active molecule bonded to the dendrimer is a drug for the treatment of a mammalian condition.

[0039] The invention further provides pharmaceutical formulations that include any of the transport molecules of the present invention in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0040] The invention further provides a method of increasing the effectiveness of a drug. The method includes administering a pharmaceutical formulation of the invention to a human or an animal.

[0041] The invention also provides a method of increasing transport of a biologically active compound across a biological membrane. The method includes contacting a biological membrane with any transport molecule of the present invention. The transport molecule that includes the biologically active compound is transported across the biological membrane at a rate greater than the biologically active compound is transported across the biological membrane when the biologically active compound is not bonded to the dendrimer of the transport molecule.

[0042] The invention further provides a method of administering a pharmaceutical agent to a subject that includes coadministering the pharmaceutical agent and any of the dendrimers of the present invention to the subject. In some such embodiments, the dendrimer is bonded to the pharmaceutical agent. In some such embodiments, the subject is a human. In other such embodiments, the subject is a cell.

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[0043] The invention also provides a method for increasing the bioavailability of a drug. The method includes bonding the drug to any of the dendrimers of the present invention. In some such embodiments, the dendrimer is bonded to the dendrimer through reaction with a peptide linking group on the dendrimer whereas in other such embodiments, the drug is bonded to the dendrimer through reaction with a non-peptide linking group on the dendrimer.

[0044] The invention further provides various methods of synthesizing dendrimers and transport molecules.

[0045] The invention further provides a transport molecule produced by any of the methods for synthesizing a transport molecule and a dendrimer molecule produced by any of the methods for synthesizing a dendrimer.

[0046] The invention further provides kits that include at least two of any of the dendrimers of the present invention or at least one dendrimer of the present invention and a linking molecule. In some embodiments, the kit includes at least two dendrimers and a linking molecule for linking the dendrimer to a biologically active molecule or a detection molecule. In still other embodiments, the kit includes instructions for attaching a biologically active molecule to the dendrimer.

[0047] The invention further provides a library that includes a plurality of dendrimers or a library that includes a plurality of transport molecules. In some embodiments, the library includes a plurality of both dendrimers and transport molecules.

[0048] Further objects, features and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the following detailed description.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0049] Figure 1 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of Boc-protected dendrimeric oligo-guanidines having three guanidine groups in identical chemical environments.

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[0050] Figures 2A-2D depict various molecules that may act as core molecules in the synthesis of dendrimeric oligo-guanidines.

[0051] Figures 3A-3D depict various dendrimeric oligo-guanidines that include 3, 6, 9, and 12 guanidine groups and a fluorescein detection molecule linked to the dendrimer by a thiourea group.

[0052] Figures 4A and 4B depict two oligo-guanidine peptides prepared from amino acids.

[0053] Figure 5 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimeric oligo-guanidine transport molecule that includes 6-mercaptopurine, a peptide linker moiety, and a dendrimer with six guanidine groups in identical chemical environments.

[0054] Figure 6 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimeric oligo-guanidines that includes three guanidine groups in identical chemical environments and a fluorescein detection molecule linked to the dendrimer by a thiourea group.

[0055] Figure 7 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimeric oligo-guanidine that includes six guanidine groups in identical chemical environments.

[0056] Figure 8 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimeric oligo-guanidine that includes six guanidine groups in identical chemical environments and a fluorescein detection molecule linked to the dendrimer by a thiourea group.

[0057] Figure 9 depicts a reaction scheme for the preparation of dendrimeric oligo-guanidines that includes nine guanidine groups in identical chemical environments and a dendrimer with a fluorescein detection molecule linked to the dendrimer by a thiourea group.

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[0058] Figure 10 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimeric oligo-guanidines that includes six guanidine groups in identical chemical environments.

[0059] Figure 11 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of dendrimeric oligo-guanidines that includes twelve guanidine groups in identical chemical environments and a dendrimer having a fluorescein detection molecule linked to the dendrimer by a thiourea group.

[0060] Figure 12 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a transport molecule that includes one guanidine group and a fluorescein detection molecule.

[0061] Figure 13 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of dendrimeric oligo-guanidines that include nine Boc-protected guanidine groups in identical chemical environments and dendrimers that include a maleimide reactive group for attachment to a biologically active molecule.

[0062] Figure 14 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of dendrimeric oligo-guanidines that include nine guanidine groups in identical chemical environments.

[0063] Figure 15 depicts nonlimiting examples of various dendrimeric oligo-guanidine transporters, nonlimiting examples of various drugs; and nonlimiting examples of various linkers that may be used to link dendrimeric oligo-guanidine transporters to drugs. The arrows pointing at positions on the drug candidate structures indicate potential points of attachment where a drug may be linked to a dendrimeric oligo-guanidine.

[0064] Figures 16A-16N are scanned in images taken through a microscope showing the cellular uptake of fluorescein-labeled compounds 10, 11, 12, 13, and 41 by HeLa S3 epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells. In preparation for these experiments, the cells were washed in a PBS buffer solution between three and five times. In each pair of images shown in figures 16A through 16N, the image on the left (e.g. Figure 16A in the first pair of images) provides an image of the cells prior to

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the uptake of the fluorescein-labeled compound, while the image on the right (e.g. Figure 16B in the first pair of images) provides an image of the cells after the uptake of the fluorescein-labeled compound. Figures 16A and 16 B show cellular uptake of compound 41 at a concentration of 10 μ M. Figures 16C and 16D show cellular uptake of compound 10 at a concentration of 10 μ M. Figures 16E and 16F show cellular uptake of compound 11 at a concentration of 10 μ M. Figures 16G and 16H show cellular uptake of compound 12 at a concentration of 10 μ M. Figures 16I and 16J show cellular uptake of compound 13 at a concentration of 10 μ M. Figures 16K-16N show cellular uptake of compound 12 at a concentration of 50 μ M and at higher magnification.

[0065] Figures 17A-17C depict graphs relating to control experiments for cellular uptake by HeLa S3 human epithelioid cervical carcinoma cell experiments in the absence of any fluorescein-labeled compound.

[0066] Figures 18A-18C depict graphs relating to the cellular uptake of fluorescein-labeled compound (12) at a concentration of 25 μ M by HeLa S3 human epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells.

[0067] Figures 19A-19C depict graphs relating to the cellular uptake of fluorescein-labeled compound (12) at a concentration of 50 μ M by HeLa S3 human epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells.

[0068] Figure 20 is a graph of the percentage uptake of compounds 10, 11, 12, 13, and 41 by HeLa S3 human epithelioid cervical cancer cells as a function of concentration in μ M.

[0069] Figure 21 is a graph of the absorbance at 572 nm as a function of the concentration of compound 12 in a sulphorhodamine B (SRB) assay. The graph shows retention of the absorbance of 572 nm between 0.3 and 0.4 indicating that compound 12 exhibited no cytotoxic effect and did not cause cell lysis during the 4 hour treatment at concentrations of up to 50 μ M.

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[0070] Figures 22A-22C depict graphs relating to the cellular uptake of fluorescein-labeled compound (12) at a concentration of 250 nM by HeLa S3 human epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells.

[0071] Figures 23A-23C depict graphs relating to the cellular uptake of fluorescein-labeled compound (12) at a concentration of 500 nM by HeLa S3 human epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells.

[0072] Figures 24A-24C depict graphs relating to the cellular uptake of fluorescein-labeled compound (12) at a concentration of 10 μ M by HeLa S3 human epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells.

[0073] Figures 25A-25C depict graphs relating to the cellular uptake of fluorescein-labeled compound (12) at a concentration of 5 μ M by HeLa S3 human epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells.

[0074] Figures 26A-26C depict graphs relating to the cellular uptake of fluorescein-labeled compound (12) at a concentration of 1 μ M by HeLa S3 human epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells.

[0075] Figure 27 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of dendrimeric oligo-amidines that include nine amidine groups in identical chemical environments.

[0076] Figure 28 depicts reaction schemes for the synthesis of dendrimeric oligo-amidines that include 6 and 9 amidine groups in identical chemical environments.

[0077] Figure 29 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimer with three protected thiourea groups.

[0078] Figure 30 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimer with 6 protected thiourea groups.

[0079] Figure 31 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimer with 9 protected thiourea groups.

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[0080] Figure 32 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimer with 3 protected urea groups.

[0081] Figure 33 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimer with 6 protected urea groups.

[0082] Figure 34 depicts a reaction scheme for the synthesis of a dendrimer with 9 protected urea groups.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0083] As employed herein, "peptide" refers to an organic compound that includes at least one peptide linkage. As employed herein a peptide linkage is an amide bond formed by the reaction of an amino group on a first α -amino acid with a carboxylic acid group on a second α -amino acid. An α -amino acid is an organic compound that bears both a carboxylic acid group and an amine group. The amine group of α -amino acids is bonded to the same carbon atom (the α -carbon) that is bonded to the carboxylic acid group. Examples of α -amino acids with the one letter symbols used to commonly refer to them include alanine (A), arginine (R), asparagine (N), aspartic acid (D), cysteine (C), glutamine (Q), glutamic acid (E), glycine (G), histidine (H), isoleucine (I), leucine (L), lysine (K), methionine (M), phenylalanine (F), proline (P), serine (S), threonine (T), tryptophan (W), tyrosine (Y), and valine (V).

[0084] As employed herein, "dendrimer" refers to an organic compound that has at least one branched tree-like structure originating from at least one core atom or at least one core portion of a molecule. In some embodiments, at least two of the branches of a "dendrimer" will be structurally similar to one another. In other embodiments, at least two of the branches of a "dendrimer" will be structurally identical such that molecule has a high degree of symmetry. In other embodiments, a "dendrimer" includes at least three branches that originate from at least one core atom or at least one portion of a core molecule. In still other embodiments, a "dendrimer" includes three branches that originate from at least one core atom or at least one portion of a core molecule and each of the three branches is structurally identical. In

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some embodiments a "dendrimer" often includes several branched tree-like structures where each branched tree-like structure originates from a core atom such as, but not limited to a tetravalent atom, or a portion of a core molecule.

[0085] As employed herein, the phrase "is in an identical chemical environment" when used with respect to two or more chemical groups such as guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, or protected guanidine groups in a molecule means that the molecule possesses a degree of symmetry such that the groups, while separate and distinct, are identical to one another in the way that they are arranged in the molecule. For example, methane is a tetrahedral molecule with four hydrogen atoms bonded to a central carbon atom. While separate and distinct, each hydrogen atom is in "an identical chemical environment" due to the symmetry of the molecule. As a further example, in chloroform, CHCl_3 , each of the three chlorine atoms "is in an identical chemical environment." Groups that are "in an identical chemical environment" will have identical chemical reactivity. Additionally, if such groups include hydrogen atoms, then each of the hydrogen atoms will have the same chemical shift in the ^1H NMR spectrum. For the purposes of this application, prochiral groups are considered to be "in an identical chemical environment." Because guanidine groups may be protonated with acids such as trifluoroacetic acid and hydrochloric acid, a molecule with more than one guanidine group in which the guanidine groups are "in an identical chemical environment" may be only partially protonated e.g. one guanidine group in a molecule with five other guanidine groups may be in a protonated form whereas the other five are not. Protonation of the single guanidine group would result in a molecule in which the protonated guanidine group is not "in an identical chemical environment" to the others. Furthermore, the protonation of the guanidine group in such a molecule may also mean that the other guanidine groups are not "in an identical chemical environment" to each of the others because the protonation of the one guanidine group has reduced the symmetry of the molecule. For this reason, when a molecule that includes a number of unprotected guanidine groups is referred to as having guanidine groups that are "in an identical chemical environment," the statement that the molecule is either neutrally charged or that each of the guanidines is protonated is used. This indicates that in order to

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determine whether a molecule that includes guanidine groups has guanidine groups that are "in an identical chemical environment", the molecule must be considered when all the guanidine groups are either all neutrally charged or all protonated with the same acid. For determination of whether a molecule has groups where each "is in an identical chemical environment", the effect of isotopes on the symmetry will not be considered. For example, a molecule that has three guanidine groups where each "is in an identical chemical environment" when each is neutrally charged or is fully protonated will not be converted to one where each is not "in an identical chemical environment" because one of the guanidine groups include a D atom rather than a H or includes a different isotope of N or C, or because one of the guanidine groups is bonded to a group that includes a different isotope of O or some other element. In other words, the O atoms in a compound such as $\text{H}_2\text{NC}(\text{CH}_2\text{OH})_3$ will be considered to be "in an identical chemical environment" even if one of the H atoms of one or two of the hydroxyl groups is replaced with a D. The above discussion also applies to amidines, ureido groups, and thioureido groups in a manner analogous to guanidines.

[0086] As employed herein, a "tetravalent atom" refers to an atom that is bonded to four different groups. Examples of "tetravalent atoms" include, but are not limited to, the carbon atom in methane, chloroform, methylene chloride, chloromethane, and carbon tetrachloride; the underlined carbon atoms in compounds of structure $\text{H}_2\text{NC}(\underline{\text{CH}_2\text{OH}})_3$, $\text{H}_2\text{NCH}(\underline{\text{CH}_2\text{OH}})_2$, and other organic compounds; the silicon atom in compounds such as tetramethylsilane; the phosphorus atom in compounds such as triphenylphosphine oxide, alkyltriphenylphosphonium halides, and the like.

[0087] As employed herein, "alkane" refers to an organic compound that includes carbon atoms and hydrogen atoms, and includes C-H bonds and additionally includes C-C single bonds in alkanes other than methane. The term "alkane" includes straight-chain alkanes such as alkanes having from 1 to 20 carbon atoms. In some embodiments, alkanes include straight-chain alkanes such as alkanes having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms such as methane, ethane, propane, butane, pentane, hexane, heptane, and octane. The term "alkane" also includes branched-chain alkanes such as, but not

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limited to branched chain alkanes having from 1 to 20, and in some embodiments from 1 to 8 carbon atoms such as, but not limited to, 2-methylpropane, 2,2-dimethylpropane, 2-methylbutane, 2,3-dimethylbutane, 2,2-dimethylbutane, 2-methylpentane, 3-methylpentane, 2,3-dimethylpentane, 2,4-dimethylpentane, 2,2-dimethylpentane, 3,3-dimethylpentane, 2-methylhexane, 3-methylhexane, 2,2-dimethylhexane, 2,3-dimethylhexane, 2,4-dimethylhexane, 2,5-dimethylhexane, 3,3-dimethylhexane, 3,4-dimethylhexane, 2-methylheptane, 3-methylheptane, 4-methylheptane, 3-ethylpentane, 3-ethyl-2-methylpentane, 3-ethylhexane, and the like. A C-C or a C-H bond of an alkane may be replaced with a bond to another group such as a hydroxyl group, a halogen such as Cl, Br, F, or I, a sulfhydryl group, or an amine group. Alkanes replaced with such groups may respectively be named as hydroxyalkanes, haloalkanes such as chloroalkanes, bromoalkanes, fluoroalkanes, iodoalkanes, mercaptoalkanes, and aminoalkanes.

[0088] As employed herein, "alkyl" refers to groups that include straight chain and branched alkyl groups having 1 to about 20 carbon atoms, and in some embodiments from 1 to 8 carbon atoms. Examples of straight chain alkyl groups include methyl, ethyl, propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl, and octyl groups. Examples of branched alkyl groups, include, those listed above with respect to "alkane" and include groups such as, but not limited to, isopropyl, sec-butyl, t-butyl, and isopentyl groups. Representative substituted alkyl groups may be substituted one or more times with, for example, amino, sulfhydryl, alkoxy, hydroxy, or halogen groups such as F, Cl, Br, I groups, and the like.

[0089] As employed herein, "cycloalkane" refers to an organic compound that includes a ring having from 3 to 8 members formed from C atoms bonded to one another with single bonds. Examples of unsubstituted cycloalkanes include cyclopropane, cyclobutane, cyclopentane, cyclohexane, cycloheptane, and cyclooctane. Cycloalkanes may be substituted with groups, such as, but not limited to, one or more alkyl groups such as alkyl groups having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms; halogen groups such as F, Cl, Br, and I; amine groups; hydroxyl groups; sulfhydryl (SH) groups; and the like.

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[0090] As employed herein, "alkene" refers to straight and branched chain groups such as those described with respect to alkanes as defined above, except that at least one double bond exists between two carbon atoms. Examples include, but are not limited to, ethylene, propylene, *cis* and *trans*, where applicable, 1-butene, 2-butene, 1-pentene, 2-pentene, 1-hexene, 2-hexene, 3-hexene, 1-heptene, 2-heptene, 3-heptene, 1-octene, 2-octene, 3-octene, 4-octene, 2-methyl-1-butene, and 2-methyl-1-pentene. The phrase "alkenyl" refers to straight and branched chain groups such as those described with respect to alkyl groups as defined above, except that at least one double bond exists between two carbon atoms. Examples include, but are not limited to vinyl, $-\text{CH}=\text{C}(\text{H})(\text{CH}_3)$, $-\text{CH}=\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2$, $-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{C}(\text{H})_2$, $-\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)=\text{C}(\text{H})(\text{CH}_3)$, $-\text{C}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_3)=\text{CH}_2$, and the like. A C-C or a C-H bond of an alkene or alkenyl group may be replaced with a bond to another group such as a hydroxyl group, a halogen such as Cl, Br, F, or I, a sulfhydryl group, an amine group, or the like.

[0091] As employed herein, "cycloalkene" refers to an organic compound that includes a ring having from 3 to 8 members formed from C atoms bonded to one another with single bonds but which includes at least one carbon carbon double bond. Examples of unsubstituted cycloalkenes include cyclopropene, cyclobutene, cyclopentene, cyclohexene, cycloheptene, and cyclooctene. Cycloalkenes may be substituted with groups, such as, but not limited to, one or more alkyl groups such as alkyl groups having from 1 to 8 carbon atoms; halogen groups such as F, Cl, Br, and I; amine groups; hydroxyl groups; sulfhydryl (SH) groups; and the like.

[0092] As employed herein, "diaminoalkane" refers to an alkane in which two H atoms of the alkane are replaced by NH_2 groups. Examples of diaminoalkanes include, but are not limited to, such compounds as 1,2-diaminoethane, 1,3-diaminopropane, 1,4-diaminobutane, 1,5-diaminopentane, 1,6-diaminohexane, 1,7-diaminoheptane, 1,8-diaminooctane, 1,2-diaminopropane, 1,2-diaminobutane, 1,2-diaminopentane, 1,2-diaminohexane, 1,2-diaminoheptane, 1,2-diaminooctane, 1,3-diaminobutane, 1,3-diaminopentane, 1,3-diaminohexane, 1,3-diaminoheptane, 1,3-diaminooctane, 1,4-diaminopentane, 1,4-diaminohexane, 1,4-diaminoheptane, 1,4-diaminooctane, 1,5-diaminohexane, 1,5-diaminoheptane, 1,5-diaminooctane, 1,6-

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diaminoheptane, 1,6-diaminooctane, 1,7-diaminooctane, 2,3-diaminobutane, 2,3-diaminopentane, 2,3-diaminohexane, 2,3-diaminoheptane, 2,3-diaminooctane, 3,4-diaminohexane, 3,4-diaminoheptane, 3,4-diaminooctane, 4,5-diaminooctane, 1,5-diamino-3-methylpentane, and 1,6-diamino-3,4-dimethylhexane.

[0093] As employed herein, "diaminocycloalkane" refers to cycloalkane groups in which two H atoms of the cycloalkane are replaced by NH₂ groups. Examples of diaminocycloalkanes include, but are not limited to, *cis* and *trans* 1,2-diaminocyclopropane, 1,2-diaminocyclobutane, 1,2-diaminocyclopentane, 1,2-diaminocyclohexane, 1,2-diaminocycloheptane, 1,2-diaminocyclooctane, 1,3-diaminocyclobutane, 1,3-diaminocyclopentane, 1,3-diaminocyclohexane, 1,3-diaminocycloheptane, 1,3-diaminocyclooctane, 1,4-diaminocyclohexane, 1,4-diaminocycloheptane, 1,4-diaminocyclooctane, 1,5-cyclooctane, and 1,4-diamino-2-methylcyclohexane.

[0094] As employed herein, "diaminoalkene" refers to alkene groups in which two H atoms of the alkene are replaced by NH₂ groups. Examples of diaminoalkenes include, but are not limited to, 1,6-diamino-3-hexene, 1,7-diamino-3-heptene, 1,8-diamino-3-octene, and 1,8-diamino-4-octene.

[0095] As employed herein, "diaminocycloalkene" refers to cycloalkene groups in which two H atoms of the cycloalkene are replaced by NH₂ groups. Examples of diaminocycloalkenes include, but are not limited to, *cis* and *trans* 4,5-diaminocyclohex-1-ene, 4,5-diaminocyclohept-1-ene, and 4,6-diamino-cyclohept-1-ene.

[0096] As employed herein, a "hydroxyaminoalkane" refers to a diaminoalkane as defined above in which one of the amino groups is replaced by a hydroxy group.

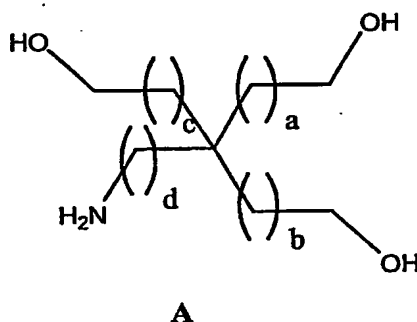
[0097] As employed herein, a "hydroxyaminoalkene" refers to a diaminoalkene as defined above in which one of the amino groups is replaced by a hydroxy group.

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[0098] As employed herein, a "hydroxyaminocycloalkane" refers to a diaminocycloalkane as defined above in which one of the amino groups is replaced by a hydroxy group.

[0099] As employed herein, a "hydroxyaminocycloalkene" refers to a diaminocycloalkene as defined above in which one of the amino groups is replaced by a hydroxy group.

[0100] As employed herein, "tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane" refers to an alkane in which one H atom is replaced with an NH_2 group and in which three H atoms are replaced by hydroxyalkyl groups. The hydroxyalkyl groups need not replace H atoms attached to the same carbon atom of the alkane, however, in some embodiments, two or three H atoms bonded to the same carbon atom of an alkane are replaced by hydroxyalkyl groups. Further the alkyl group of the hydroxyalkyl groups need not be the same in each of the hydroxyalkyl groups. The NH_2 group need not replace a H atom bonded to a carbon atom bearing one of the hydroxymethyl groups. Examples of tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkanes include compounds of formula A

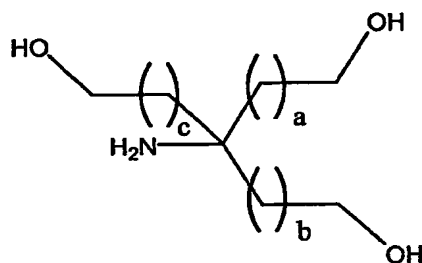


[0101] where, with respect to compounds of structure A, a, b, c, and d are independently selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8. Examples of compounds of formula A include, but are not limited to, tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, 2,2,2-tris(hydroxymethyl)-1-aminoethane, 3,3,3-tris(hydroxyethyl)-1-aminopropane, 3-(hydroxyethyl)-3-(hydroxymethyl)-3-(hydroxypentyl)-1-aminopropane, and 3,3,3-tris(hydroxymethyl)-1-aminopropane. Further examples of tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkanes include, but are not limited to, 2-amino-1,5-

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dihydroxy-3-(hydroxymethyl)pentane, and 1-amino-5,6-dihydroxy-(2-hydroxymethyl)hexane.

[0102] As employed herein, "tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethane" refers to a compound of formula **B**



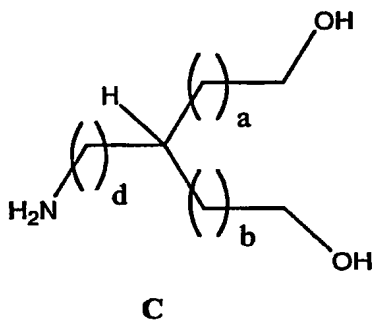
B

[0103] where, with respect to compounds of formula **B**, a is selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8, b is selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8, and c is selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8. In some embodiments, a, b, and c have the same value whereas in other embodiments a and b have different values and c has a value similar to a or b. In other embodiments a, b, and c each have different values. In some embodiments, a, b, and c are each independently selected from 0, 1, 2, or 3. Examples of unsubstituted tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethanes include, but are not limited to, tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, tris(hydroxyethyl)aminomethane, tris(hydroxypropyl)-aminomethane, tris(hydroxybutyl)aminomethane [bis(hydroxymethyl)](hydroxyethyl)-aminoethane, [bis(hydroxymethyl)](hydroxypropyl)aminoethane, [bis(hydroxymethyl)](hydroxybutyl)aminoethane, [bis(hydroxyethyl)](hydroxypropyl)-aminoethane, [bis(hydroxyethyl)](hydroxybutyl)aminoethane, [bis(hydroxypropyl)](hydroxybutyl)aminoethane, (hydroxyethyl)(hydroxymethyl)-(hydroxypropyl)aminomethane, and (hydroxybutyl)(hydroxyethyl)(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane. Tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethanes of formula **B** may also be substituted with alkyl groups and groups such as fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine. A nonlimiting example of a substituted tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethane is

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tris(6-hydroxy-3,3-dimethylhexyl)aminomethane. Tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethanes are a type of tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane.

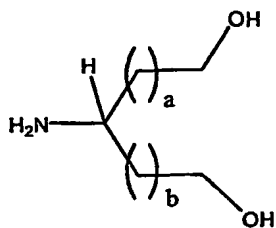
[0104] As employed herein, "bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane" refers to an alkane in which one H atom is replaced with an NH_2 group and in which two H atoms are replaced by hydroxyalkyl groups. The hydroxyalkyl groups need not replace H atoms attached to the same carbon atom of the alkane, however, in some embodiments, two H atoms bonded to the same carbon atom of an alkane are replaced by hydroxyalkyl groups. The NH_2 group need not replace a H atom bonded to a carbon atom bearing one of the hydroxyalkyl groups. Further the alkyl group of the hydroxyalkyl groups need not be the same for each of the two hydroxyalkyl groups. Examples of bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkanes include compounds of formula C



[0105] where, with respect to compounds of structure C, a, b, and d are independently selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8. Examples of compounds of formula C include, but are not limited to, bis(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, 2,2-bis(hydroxymethyl)-1-aminoethane, 3,3-bis(hydroxyethyl)-1-aminopropane, 3-(hydroxyethyl)-3-(hydroxymethyl)-1-aminopropane, and 3,3-bis(hydroxymethyl)-1-aminopropane. Further examples of bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkanes include, but are not limited to, 1-amino-6-hydroxy-4-(hydroxymethyl)heptane, and 1-amino-1,1-bis(hydroxymethyl)pentane.

[0106] As employed herein, "bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethane" refers to a compound of formula D

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D

[0107] Where, with respect to compounds of formula **D**, *a* is selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 and *b* is selected from 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8. In some embodiments, *a* and *b* have the same value whereas in other embodiments *a* and *b* have different values. In some embodiments, *a* and *b* are independently selected from 0, 1, 2, or 3. Examples of unsubstituted bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethanes include, but are not limited to, bis(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, bis(hydroxyethyl)aminomethane, bis(hydroxypropyl)-aminomethane, bis(hydroxybutyl)aminomethane (hydroxyethyl)(hydroxymethyl)aminoethane, (hydroxymethyl)(hydroxypropyl)aminoethane, (hydroxybutyl)(hydroxymethyl)aminoethane, (hydroxyethyl)(hydroxypropyl)aminoethane, (hydroxybutyl)(hydroxyethyl)aminoethane, and (hydroxybutyl)(hydroxypropyl)aminoethane. Bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethanes of formula **D** may also be substituted with alkyl groups and groups such as fluorine, chlorine, bromine, and iodine. A nonlimiting example of a substituted bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethane is bis(6-hydroxy-3,3dimethyl)aminomethane. Bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethanes are a class of bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkanes.

[0108] The term “protected” with respect to hydroxyl groups, amine groups, guanidine groups, amidine groups, ureido groups, thioureidogroups, and sulfhydryl groups refers to forms of these functionalities which are protected from undesirable reaction with a protecting group known to those skilled in the art such as those set forth in *Protective Groups in Organic Synthesis*, Greene, T.W.; Wuts, P. G. M., John Wiley & Sons, New York, NY, (3rd Edition, 1999) which can be added or removed using the procedures set forth therein. Examples of protected hydroxyl groups include, but are not limited to, silyl ethers such as those obtained by reaction of a

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hydroxyl group with a reagent such as, but not limited to, *t*-butyldimethylchlorosilane, trimethylchlorosilane, triisopropylchlorosilane, triethylchlorosilane; substituted methyl and ethyl ethers such as, but not limited to methoxymethyl ether, methylthiomethyl ether, benzyloxymethyl ether, *t*-butoxymethyl ether, 2-methoxyethoxymethyl ether, tetrahydropyranyl ethers, 1-ethoxyethyl ether, allyl ether, benzyl ether; esters such as, but not limited to, benzoylformate, formate, acetate, trichloroacetate, and trifluoroacetate. Examples of protected amine groups include, but are not limited to, amides such as, formamide, acetamide, trifluoroacetamide, and benzamide; imides, such as phthalimide, and dithiosuccinimide; and others. A specific example of a protecting group for amines is benzyloxycarbonyl (Cbz) group. Examples of protected sulfhydryl groups include, but are not limited to, thioethers such as S-benzyl thioether, and S-4-picolyl thioether; substituted S-methyl derivatives such as hemithio, dithio and aminothio acetals; and others. Examples of protected guanidine groups include those protected with the *t*-butoxycarbonyl (Boc) group.

[0109] A "pharmaceutically acceptable salt" includes a salt with an inorganic base, organic base, inorganic acid, organic acid, or basic or acidic amino acid. As salts of inorganic bases, the invention includes, for example, alkali metals such as sodium or potassium; alkaline earth metals such as calcium and magnesium or aluminum; and ammonium. As salts of organic bases, the invention includes, for example, trimethylamine, triethylamine, pyridine, picoline, ethanolamine, diethanolamine, and triethanolamine. As salts of inorganic acids, the instant invention includes, for example, hydrochloric acid, hydroboric acid, nitric acid, sulfuric acid, and phosphoric acid. As salts of organic acids, the instant invention includes, for example, formic acid, acetic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, fumaric acid, oxalic acid, tartaric acid, maleic acid, citric acid, succinic acid, malic acid, methanesulfonic acid, benzenesulfonic acid, and *p*-toluenesulfonic acid. As salts of basic amino acids, the instant invention includes, for example, arginine, lysine and ornithine. Acidic amino acids include, for example, aspartic acid and glutamic acid. The pharmaceutical formulations of the present invention may include pharmaceutically acceptable salts

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of a pharmaceutical agent or a biologically active molecule or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt of a transport molecule.

[0110] As employed herein "guanidine group" refers to a group of formula $\text{-NR}^1\text{-C(=NR}^2\text{)-NR}^3\text{R}^4$ where R^1 through R^4 are independently selected from H, alkyl groups, or protecting groups. In many embodiments, R^1 , R^2 , R^3 , and R^4 are all H.

[0111] As employed herein "protonated guanidine group" refers to a guanidine group as defined above which is the product of an acid-base reaction with any acid that protonates the guanidine group. Examples of suitable acids include, but are not limited to, HCl, HBr, HI, HF, and trifluoroacetic acid.

[0112] As employed herein "protected guanidine group" refers to a guanidine group as defined above in which the guanidine group is protected with any of several protecting groups. In some embodiments, R^1 is H, R^2 is a protecting group, one of R^3 or R^4 is H, and the other of R^3 or R^4 is a protecting group. An example of such a "protected guanidine group" includes, but is not limited to $\text{-NH-C(=NBoc)-NHBoc}$.

[0113] As employed herein "guanidinylating" refers to any reaction wherein a guanidine group is formed.

[0114] As employed herein "amidine group" refers to a group of formula $\text{-C(=NR}^2\text{)-NR}^3\text{R}^4$ where, with respect to this formula, R^2 through R^4 are independently selected from H, alkyl groups, and protecting groups. In many embodiments, R^2 , R^3 , and R^4 are all H.

[0115] As employed herein "protonated amidine group" refers to a amidine group as defined above which is the product of an acid-base reaction with any acid that protonates the amidine group. Examples of suitable acids include, but are not limited to HCl, HBr, HI, HF, and trifluoroacetic acid.

[0116] As employed herein "protected amidine group" refers to a amidine group as defined above in which the amidine group is protected with any of several

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protecting groups. In some embodiments, R^2 is a protecting group, one of R^3 or R^4 is H, and the other of R^3 or R^4 is a protecting group. An example of such a "protected amidine group" includes, but is not limited to $-C(=NBoc)-NHBoc$.

[0117] As employed herein "amidinylation" refers to any chemical reaction in which an amidine group is formed.

[0118] As employed herein "ureido group" refers to a group of formula $-NR^1-C(=O)-NR^3R^4$ where R^1 , R^3 , and R^4 are independently selected from H, alkyl groups, and protecting groups. In many embodiments, R^1 , R^3 , and R^4 are all H.

[0119] As employed herein "protonated ureido group" refers to a ureido group as defined above which is the product of an acid-base reaction with any acid that protonates the ureido group. Examples of suitable acids include, but are not limited to HCl, HBr, HI, HF, and trifluoroacetic acid.

[0120] As employed herein "protected ureido group" refers to a ureido group as defined above in which the ureido group is protected with any of several protecting groups. In some embodiments, one of R^3 or R^4 is H, and the other of R^3 or R^4 is a protecting group. An example of such a "protected thioureido group" includes, but is not limited to $-NH-C(=S)-NHBoc$.

[0121] As employed herein "ureidolating" refers to any chemical reaction in which a thioureido group is formed.

[0122] As employed herein "thioureido group" refers to a group of formula $-NR^1C(=S)-NR^3R^4$ where, with respect to this formula R^1 , R^3 , and R^4 are independently selected from H, alkyl groups, and protecting groups. In many embodiments R^1 , R^3 , and R^4 are all H..

[0123] As employed herein "protonated thioureido group" refers to a thioureido group as defined above which is the product of an acid-base reaction with any acid that protonates the thioureido group. Examples of suitable acids include, but are not limited to HCl, HBr, HI, HF, and trifluoroacetic acid.

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[0124] As employed herein "protected thioureido group" refers to a thioureido group as defined above in which the thioureido group is protected with any of several protecting groups. In some embodiments, one of R^3 or R^4 is H, and the other of R^3 or R^4 is a protecting group. An example of such a "protected thioureido group" includes, but is not limited to $-NH-C(=S)-NHBoc$.

[0125] As employed herein "thioureidolating" refers to any chemical reaction in which a thioureido group is formed.

[0126] Generally, the invention provides dendrimers, transport molecules, methods for making dendrimers and transport molecules, pharmaceutical formulations that include the dendrimers and transport molecules, methods of increasing the effectiveness of a drug, methods of increasing transport of a biologically active compound across a biological membrane, methods for measuring the uptake of a dendrimer in a cell, methods for administering pharmaceutical agents to a subject, methods for increasing the bioavailability of a drug, kits that include dendrimers and/or transport molecules, and libraries of dendrimers and transport molecules.

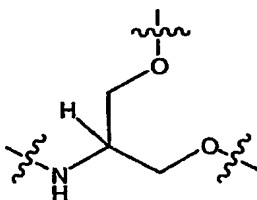
[0127] In one aspect, the invention provides a dendrimer that includes at least two branch groups and two or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or more amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or two or more ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or two or more thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof. In such dendrimers, at least two of the two or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof are borne at the end of the at least two branch groups. By way of example, such dendrimers, include, but are not limited to compounds 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64 shown in Figures 1, 3A-3D, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 and the transporters shown in Figure 15. In some such embodiments, the dendrimer includes at least three branch groups and three or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof;

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amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof. In such dendrimers, at least three of the three or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof are borne at the end of the at least three branch groups. By way of example, dendrimers with at least three such branch groups and three or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof include, but are not limited to, compounds 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64 shown in Figures 1, 3A-3D, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34, and the Transporters shown in Figure 15.

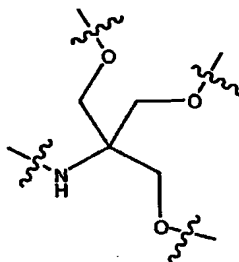
[0128] In some embodiments, the dendrimer includes at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least two branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. By way of example, such dendrimers include, but are not limited to, dendrimers with a tetravalent carbon atom that is bonded to two branch groups such as compounds 13, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 shown in Figures 3D, 10, and 11. For example compounds 13, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34 each include a tetravalent carbon atom which is the "methane" of a bis(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane residue in the molecule, a structural unit that is quite useful for constructing dendrimers of the invention that include an even number of guanidine units, amidine units, ureido or thioureido units. For this reason, many of the dendrimers of the present invention include a group of formula IV or a similar structural unit.

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IV

[0129] By way of example, dendrimers that include at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least three branch groups include compounds 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, and 64 shown in Figures 1, 3A-3D, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, and 27-34, and the Transporters shown in Figure 15. For example, compounds 3, 4, and 5 (see Figure 1) each include a tetravalent carbon atom which is the "methane" of a tris(hydroxymethyl)-aminomethane residue in the molecule, a structural unit that is quite useful in constructing dendrimers of the present invention. For this reason, many of the dendrimers of the present invention include a group of formula I or a similar structural unit.



I

[0130] Notably, some dendrimers include at least one tetravalent atom that is bonded to at least two branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, or terminal protected guanidine groups and at least one tetravalent atom that is bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, or terminal protected guanidine groups. Examples of such dendrimers, include, but are not limited to, compounds 13, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34. In some embodiments, the dendrimer includes one, two, three, or four groups of formula I. By way of example, dendrimers with one

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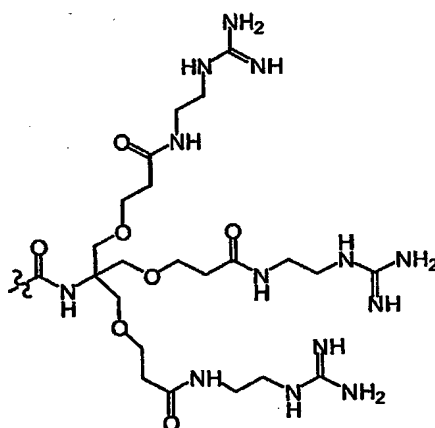
group of formula I include, but are not limited to, 3, 4, 5, 10, 17, 47, 48, 56, 57, 58, 61, 62, and the top Transporter shown in Figure 15. By way of example, dendrimers with two groups of formula I include, but are not limited to, compounds 11, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 30, 31, 49, 59, 63, and the bottom Transporter shown in Figure 15. By way of example, dendrimers with three group of formula I include, but are not limited to, compounds 45, 46, 50, 60, and 64. By way of example, dendrimers with four groups of formula I include, but are not limited to, compound 12, 13, 24, 25, 26, 32, 33, 34, 42, 43, and 44.

[0131] As will be apparent from the above discussion, in some embodiments the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one tetravalent atom that is bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. As will also be apparent from the above discussion, in other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a first tetravalent atom and a second tetravalent atom, and the first tetravalent atom and the second tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. As will yet further be apparent from the above discussion, in still other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, and a third tetravalent atom, and the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, and the third tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido

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groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. As will also be apparent from the above discussion, in yet other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, a third tetravalent atom, and a fourth tetravalent atom, and the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, the third tetravalent atom, and the fourth tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0132] As noted above, dendrimers of the invention may include a group of formula I. Such dendrimers may include groups of formula II or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula II. The group of formula II has been found to be particularly useful as a structural group and scaffold for preparing dendrimers of the present invention. Notably, the group of formula II is itself a dendrimer.



II

[0133] In some embodiments, dendrimers include one, two, three, or four groups of formula II. By way of example, dendrimers that include one group of formula II or protonated or protected forms thereof include, but are not limited to, compounds 3, 4, 5, 10, 17, and the top Transporter of Figure 15. By way of example,

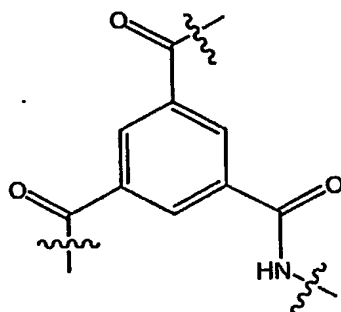
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dendrimers that include two groups of formula II or protonated or protected forms thereof include, but are not limited to, compounds 11, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 30, 31, and the bottom Transporter of Figure 15. By way of example, dendrimers that include three groups of formula II or protonated or protected forms thereof include, but are not limited to, compounds 12, 24, 25, 26, 42, 43, 44, 45, and 46. By way of example, dendrimers that include four groups of formula II or protonated or protected forms thereof include, but are not limited to, compounds 13, 32, 33, and 34.

[0134] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula II wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups. Such dendrimers may also include protonated or protected forms of such groups. In some embodiments, the dendrimer includes one, two, three, or four groups having a structure analogous to that of formula II wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups. By way of example, dendrimers that include one group analogous to that of formula II wherein the guanidine groups have been replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups, or protonated or protected forms of such groups, include but are not limited to, compounds 48, 58, and 62. By way of example, dendrimers that include two group analogous to that of formula II wherein the guanidine groups have been replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups, or protonated or protected forms of such groups, include but are not limited to, compounds 49, 59, and 63. By way of example, dendrimers that include three group analogous to that of formula II wherein the guanidine groups have been replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups, or protonated or protected forms of such groups, include but are not limited to, compounds 50, 60, and 64.

[0135] Another structural unit that has been found useful in preparing dendrimers includes a group of formula III. Therefore, in some embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having the formula III.

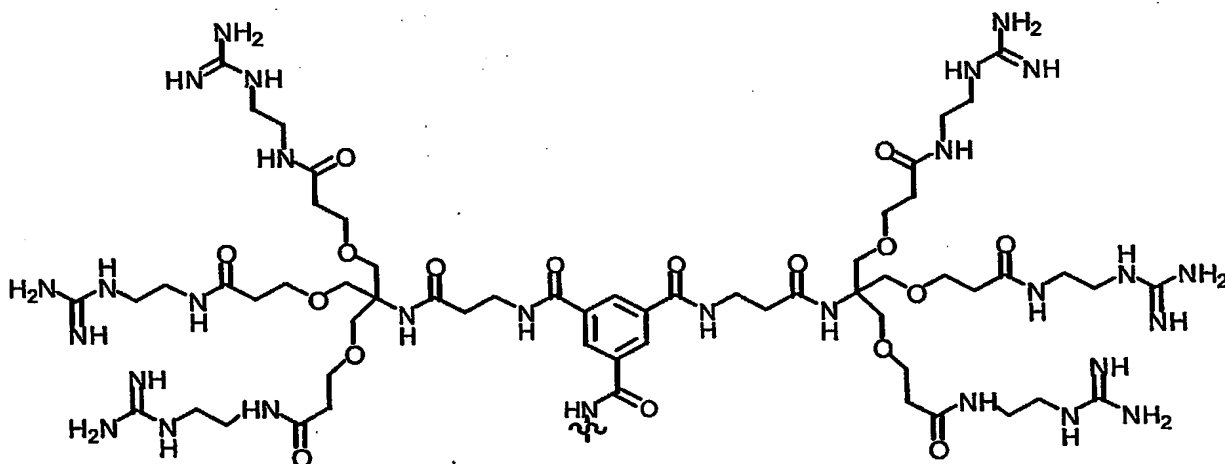
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III

[0136] By way of example, dendrimers that include at least one group of formula **III** include, but are not limited to, compounds 11, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 45, 46, 49, 59, 63, and the bottom Transporter of Figure 15.

[0137] Another structural unit that has been found useful in preparing dendrimers includes a group of formula **V** or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula **V**. Therefore, in some embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having the formula **V** or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula **V**.



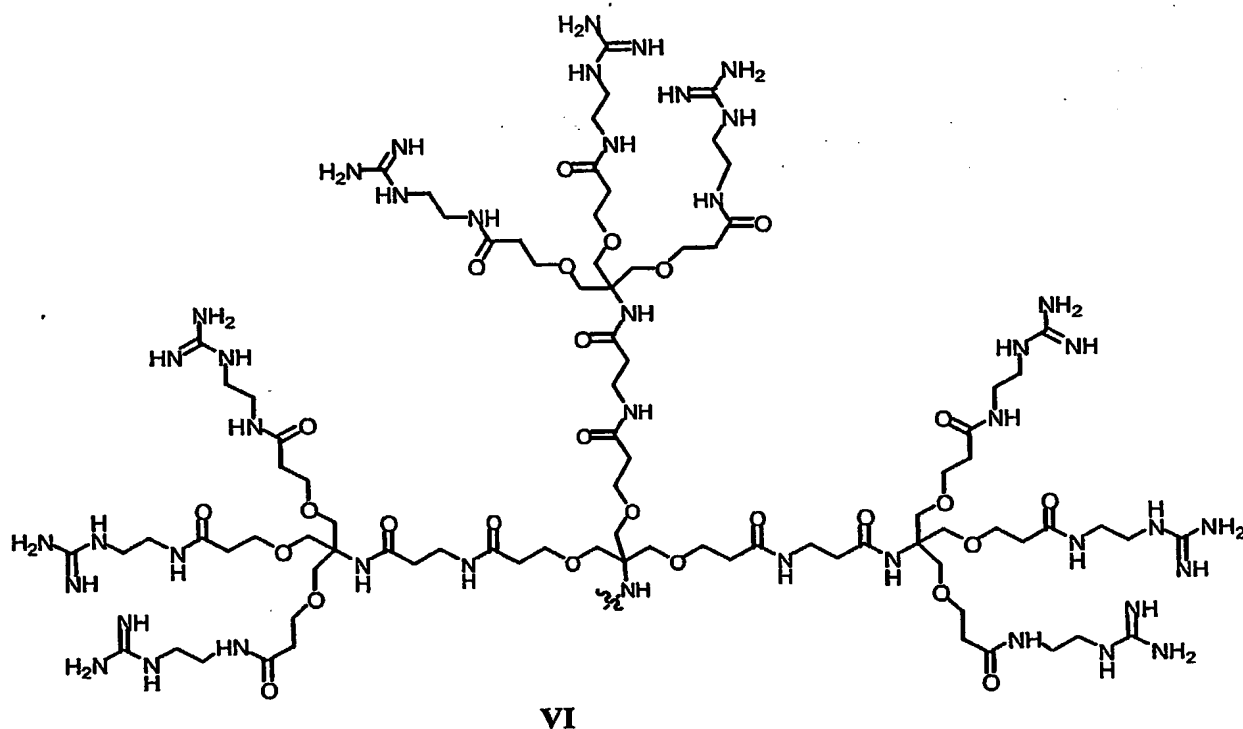
V

[0138] By way of example, dendrimers that include at least one group of formula **V** or protonated or protected forms thereof include, but are not limited to, compounds 11, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 45, 46, and the bottom Transporter of Figure 15.

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[0139] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula V wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups. Such dendrimers may also include protonated or protected forms of such groups. By way of example, dendrimers that include one group analogous to that of formula V wherein the guanidine groups have been replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups, or protonated or protected forms of such groups, include but are not limited to, compounds 49, 59, and 63.

[0140] Another structural unit that has been found useful in preparing dendrimers includes a group of formula VI or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VI. Therefore, in some embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having the formula VI or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VI.



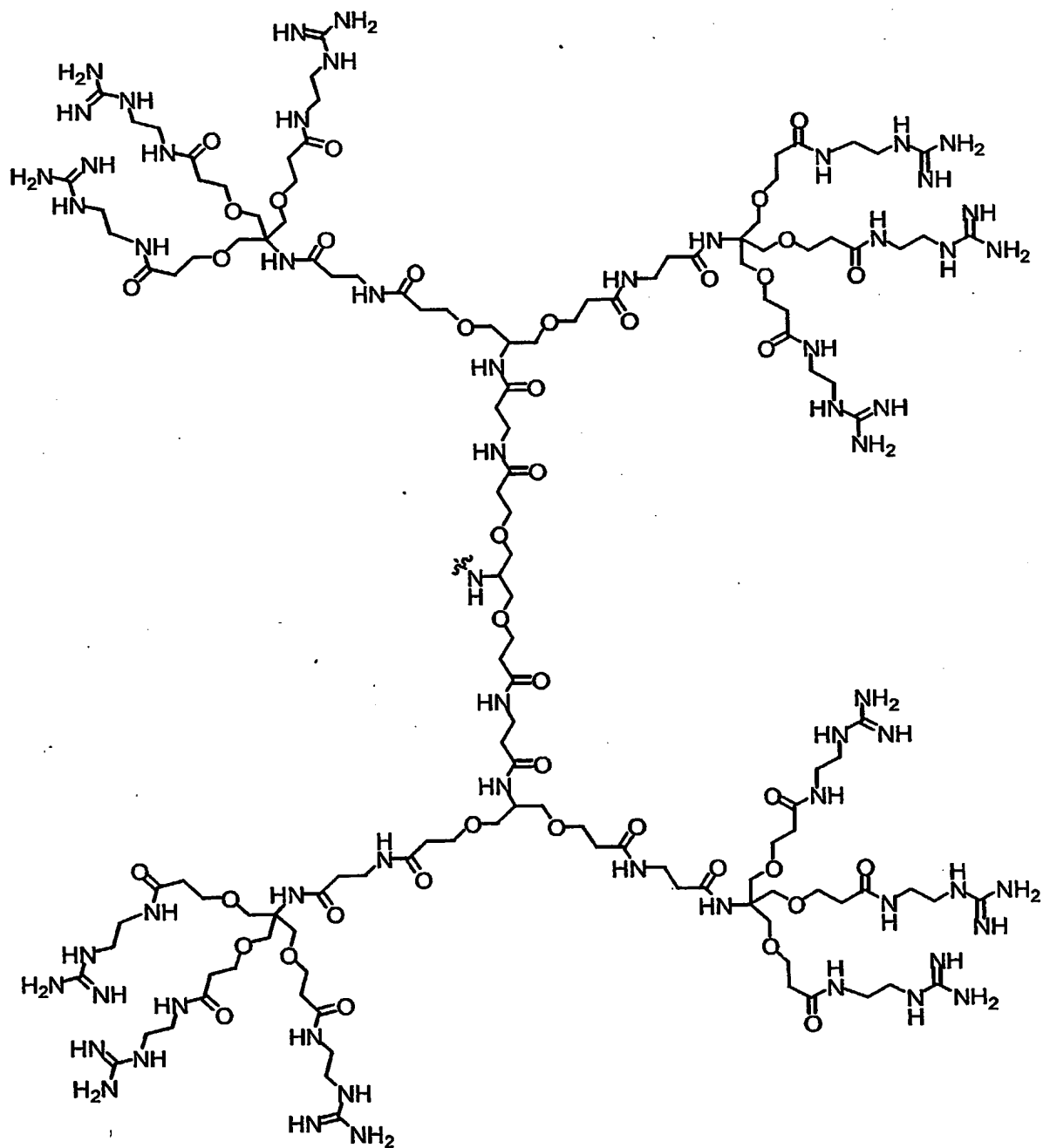
[0141] By way of example, dendrimers that include at least one group of formula VI or protonated or protected forms thereof include, but are not limited to, compounds 12, 24, 25, 26, 42, 43, and 44.

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[0142] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula **VI** wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups. Such dendrimers may also include protonated or protected forms of such groups. By way of example, dendrimers that include one group analogous to that of formula **VI** wherein the guanidine groups have been replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups, or protonated or protected forms of such groups, include but are not limited to, compounds **50**, **60**, and **64**.

[0143] Another structural unit that has been found useful in preparing dendrimers includes a group of formula **VII** or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula **VII**. Therefore, in some embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having the formula **VII** or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula **VII**.

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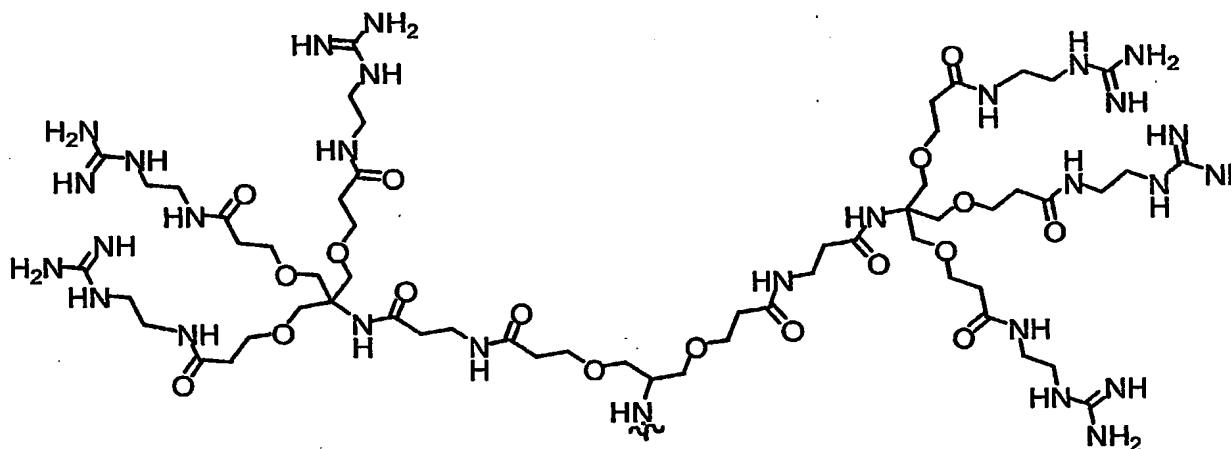
VII

[0144] By way of example, dendrimers that include at least one group of formula VII or protonated or protected forms thereof include, but are not limited to, compounds 13, 32, 33, and 34.

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[0145] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula VII wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups. Such dendrimers may also include protonated or protected forms of such groups.

[0146] Another structural unit that has been found useful in preparing dendrimers includes a group of formula VIII or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VIII. Therefore, in some embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having the formula VIII or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VIII.



VIII

[0147] By way of example, dendrimers that include at least one group of formula VIII or protonated or protected forms thereof include, but are not limited to, compounds 13, 30, 31, 32, 33, and 34.

[0148] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula VIII wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups. Such dendrimers may also include protonated or protected forms of such groups.

[0149] One skilled in the art will recognize that many of the dendrimers of the present invention possess a high degree of symmetry although this is not required

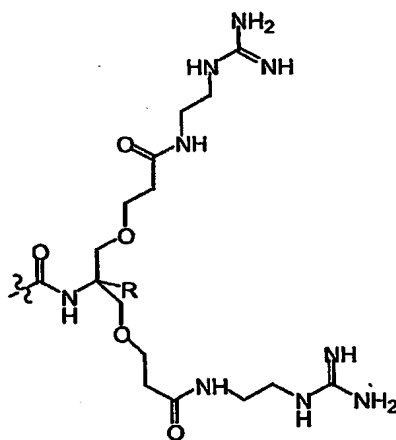
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or critical to the invention because the dendrimers of the invention may be synthesized from unsymmetrical materials such as unsymmetrical tris(hydroxyalkyl)alkanes and unsymmetrical bis(hydroxyalkyl)alkanes. Formation of dendrimers using a convergent synthesis from symmetrical starting materials such as tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, bis(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, 2,2,2-tris(hydroxyethyl)-1-aminoethane, 3,3-bis(hydroxyethyl)-1-aminopropane, 1,3,5-trisubstituted benzene compounds, 1,2-disubstituted benzenes, 1,3-disubstituted benzenes, 1,4-disubstituted benzenes, and the like can produce dendrimers with high degrees of symmetry. Convergent synthesis employing symmetrical starting materials also simplifies the synthesis and characterization of such dendrimers and thereby reduces the cost of such dendrimers. In some embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers which possess a degree of symmetry such that each of the guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; each of the amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; each of the ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof, or each of the thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof is in an identical chemical environment when each of the guanidine group, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; each of the amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof, each of the ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof, or each of the thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof is either neutrally charged or is protonated. Although it is not required or critical to the invention, in some embodiments, the dendrimer possesses C_{2v} symmetry whereas in other embodiments, the dendrimer possesses C_{3v} symmetry. Symmetrical dendrimers may possess symmetry represented by other symmetry groups. By way of nonlimiting example, each of the three guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups or protected guanidine groups in dendrimers 3, 4, 5, 10, 17, and the top Transporter shown in Figure 15 are in identical chemical environments. By way of further nonlimiting example, each of the 6 guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups or protected guanidine groups in dendrimers 11, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 30, 31, and the bottom Transporter shown in Figure 15 are in identical chemical environments. By way of still further nonlimiting example, each of the 9 guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, or protected guanidine groups in

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dendrimers 12, 24, 25, 26, 42, 43, 44, 45, and 46 are in identical chemical environments. By way of still further nonlimiting example, each of the 12 guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, or protected guanidine groups in dendrimers 13, 32, 33, and 34 are in identical chemical environments.

[0150] One skilled in the art will readily recognize that the methods of the invention include the synthesis of dendrimers that include at least one group of formula IX or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula IX



IX

[0151] where, in groups of formula IX, R is H, a straight chain alkyl group having 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, or 8 carbon atoms, or a symmetrical branched alkyl group. Dendrimers that include groups of formula IX or protonated or protected forms thereof include two guanidines or protected guanidines that are in identical chemical environments and may be used to prepare larger dendrimers that include 4, 6, or more guanidine groups. The synthesis of dendrimers that include a group of formula IX or a protonated or protected form thereof may be readily accomplished using the methods of the present invention. For example, the synthesis of dendrimers 3, 4, and 5 shown in Figure 1 may be applied to prepare the bis-guanidine analogs by starting with bis(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane in place of tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane by simply adjusting the equivalents of the reagents to take into account the difference in the number of branches originating from the tetravalent "methane" carbon atom of the tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane and the bis(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane.

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The dibranched analog of 5 produced in this manner may be used in place of 5 in the reaction schemes shown in Figures 6, 7, 9, 10, 13, and 14.

[0152] Inspection of the various reaction schemes shown in the figures and the reaction transformations described in the examples shows that, in many embodiments, the dendrimers of the invention include amide bonds, but do not include any peptide linkages. They may also include ester bonds in some embodiments, and may further include both amide and ester bonds. The flexibility of the synthetic procedures is such that peptide linkages may be incorporated into the dendrimers if desired. For example, as shown in Figure 5, although dendrimer 14 does not include any peptide bonds, reaction with N-acetyl-Cys(STrityl)-Ala-Ala-COOH produces a dendrimer 15 which includes a linking group that has peptide linkages and a protected sulfhydryl (SH) group that may be deprotected and used to form a disulfide linkage to biologically active molecules that include a sulfhydryl group such as, but not limited to, 6-mercaptapurine.

[0153] Dendrimers of the invention may include one or more detection molecules that are bonded to the dendrimer. Such dendrimers may be prepared using the same procedures used to produce transport molecules of the invention. For example, dendrimers with detection molecules include compounds 10, 11, 12, 13, 17, 22, 26, and 34 in which a detection molecule, fluorescein, is bonded to the dendrimer through a thiourea group. Such detection molecules may include molecules with isotopes for use in NMR or MRI analysis. Other suitable detection molecules include those with groups that fluoresce such as, but not limited to fluorescein, those which enzymatic conversion (e.g. chloramphenicol transferase), those capable of colorimetric determination (e.g. β -galactosidase). Dendrimers with detection molecules allow the uptake of a dendrimer in a human or animal cell to be analyzed as shown in Figures 16A-16N, 17A-17C, 18A-18C, 19A-19C, 20, 21, 22A-22C, 23A-23C, 24A-24C, 25A-25C, 26A-26C, and in Table 1. A typical method for determining cellular uptake with such dendrimers includes administering a dendrimer that includes a detection molecule to a human, an animal, or a plant, and imaging the

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detection molecule using any of several known imaging procedures that are known to those skilled in the art.

[0154] The invention also provides dendrimers that act as transport molecules. Such transport molecules include any dendrimer of the invention and a biologically active molecule. The dendrimer of the transport molecule includes at least one guanidine group, a salt of at least one guanidine group, at least one protected guanidine group, at least one amidine group, a salt of at least one amidine group, at least one protected amidine group, at least one ureido group, a salt of at least one ureido group, at least one protected ureido group, and at least one thioureido group, a salt of at least one thioureido group, at least one protected thioureido group and the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer. With respect to the dendrimers of the transport molecules, the definition of the "dendrimer" is expanded for convenience to include compounds such as compounds 40 and 41 which include one guanidine group at the terminal end of one branch that, in some embodiments does not include any peptide linkages, however, as will be readily observed by one of skill in the art, the dendrimers of the majority of embodiments of the transport molecules of the invention include at least two branches and at least two guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, or protected guanidine groups; at least two amidine groups, protonated amidine groups, or protected amidine groups; or at least two ureido groups, protonated ureido groups, or protected ureido groups, or at least two thioureido groups, protonated thioureido groups, or protected thioureido groups generally at the terminal end of the at least two branches. In various embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule does not include arginine or lysine units or residues and in some embodiments does not include any peptide linkages.

[0155] In some embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least two groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated

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thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes a first tetravalent atom and a second tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom and the second tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In yet other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, and a third tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, and the third tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups. In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, a third tetravalent atom, and a fourth tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, the third tetravalent atom, and the fourth tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido

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groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0156] In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes at least two guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups, and the transport molecule possesses a degree of symmetry such that the at least two guanidine groups, protonated guanidine, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups are in identical chemical environments when all the guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups of the dendrimer are either neutrally charged or are protonated. In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes three or more guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups, and the transport molecule possesses a degree of symmetry such that each of the three or more guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups, or terminal

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protected thioureido groups is in an identical chemical environment when each of the three or more guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups is either neutrally charged or is protonated. In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule possesses C_{2v} symmetry whereas in other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule possesses C_{3v} symmetry or other symmetry. In still other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes 3, 6, 9, or 12 guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0157] In yet other embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes a group of formula I, a group of formula II or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula II, a group of formula III, a group of formula IV, a group of formula V or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula V, a group of formula VI or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VI, a group of formula VII or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VII, a group of formula VIII or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula VIII, or a group of formula IX or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula IX. In some embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes one, two, three, or four groups of formula I or formula II or protonated or protected forms of the group of formula II. The dendrimers of the transport molecule may also include a group of formula IX or a protonated or protected form of the group of formula IX.

[0158] In other embodiments, the invention provides dendrimers that include at least one group having a structure analogous to that of formula II, formula V, formula VI, formula VII, formula VIII, or formula IX wherein the guanidine groups

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are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thioureido groups or a protected form of such groups. In some embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes one, two, three, or four groups analogous to formula II, wherein the guanidine groups are replaced with amidine, ureido, or thiorueido groups or protonated or protected forms of such groups.

[0159] The biologically active molecule may be attached to the dendrimer using a wide variety of methodologies. In one embodiment, the biologically active molecule is directly bonded to the dendrimer by reaction of a group on the biologically active molecule with a complimentary reactive group on the dendrimer. In other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is attached to the dendrimer through a linking group that may be formed by reaction of a linking molecule with the dendrimer. In such methods, a reactive group on a peptide or non-peptide-containing linking group that is bonded to the dendrimer is typically reacted with a reactive group on the biologically active molecule to produce the transport molecule. In some embodiments, the dendrimer of the transport molecule includes amide bonds but does not include any peptide linkages. In other embodiments, the transport molecule includes a disulfide linkage, an ether linkage, or a thioether linkage, and the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through the disulfide linkage, the ether linkage, or the thioether linkage. For example, in transport molecule 16, a dendrimer with 6 guanidine groups in identical chemical environments is bonded to a biologically active molecule, 6-mercaptopurine, with a peptide-containing linking group through a disulfide linkage. In other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through an amide or ester linkage. In other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through a thiourea group. In yet other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer by reaction of a maleimide on the dendrimer with a reactive group on the biologically active molecule. An example of a dendrimer with a reactive maleimide group is compound 44. In still other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through a carbon-carbon single bond. In still other embodiments, the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer

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through a covalent bond using various methods that will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art.

[0160] A wide variety of biologically active molecules are suitable for use in the transport molecules of the invention. Therefore, the transport molecules of the present invention may be used to treat a wide variety of diseases and conditions in humans, Mammals, and other animals. Diseases and conditions contemplated for treatment in accordance with the present invention include inflammatory and infectious diseases, such as, for example, septic shock, hemorrhagic shock, anaphylactic shock, toxic shock syndrome, ischemia, cerebral ischemia, administration of cytokines, overexpression of cytokines, ulcers, inflammatory bowel disease (e.g., ulcerative colitis or Crohn's disease), diabetes, arthritis, asthma, Alzheimer's disease, Parkinson's disease, multiple sclerosis, cirrhosis, allograft rejection, encephalomyelitis, meningitis, pancreatitis, peritonitis, vasculitis, lymphocytic choriomeningitis, glomerulonephritis, uveitis, ileitis, inflammation (e.g., liver inflammation, renal inflammation, and the like), burn, infection (including bacterial, viral, fungal and parasitic infections), hemodialysis, chronic fatigue syndrome, stroke, cancers (e.g., breast, melanoma, carcinoma, and the like), cardiopulmonary bypass, ischemic/reperfusion injury, gastritis, adult respiratory distress syndrome, cachexia, myocarditis, autoimmune disorders, eczema, psoriasis, heart failure, heart disease, atherosclerosis, dermatitis, urticaria, systemic lupus erythematosus, AIDA, AIDS dementia, chronic neurodegenerative disease, chronic pain, priapism, cystic fibrosis, amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, schizophrenia, depression, premenstrual syndrome, anxiety, addiction, migraine, Huntington's disease, epilepsy, neurodegenerative disorders, gastrointestinal motility disorders, obesity, hyperphagia, solid tumors (e.g., neuroblastoma), malaria, hematologic cancers, myelofibrosis, lung injury, graft-versus-host disease, head injury, CNS trauma, hepatitis, renal failure, liver disease (e.g., chronic hepatitis C), drug-induced lung injury (e.g., paraquat), myasthenia gravis (MG), ophthalmic diseases, post-angioplasty, restenosis, angina, coronary artery disease, and the like.

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[0161] Biologically active molecules contemplated for use in the synthesis of transport molecules and for use in pharmaceutical formulation and medicaments of the present invention include, but are not limited to the following:

[0162] NSAIDS, such as acetaminophen (Tylenol, Datril, etc.), aspirin, ibuprofen (Motrin, Advil, Rufen, others), choline magnesium salicylate (Triasate), choline salicylate (Anthropan), diclofenac (voltaren, cataflam), diflunisal (dolobid), etodolac (Iodine), fenoprofen calcium (nalfon), flurobiprofen (ansaid), indomethacin (indocin, indometh, others), ketoprofen (orudis, oruvail), ketorolac tromethamine (toradol), magnesium salicylate (Doan's, magan, mobidin, others), meclofenamate sodium (meclomen), mefenamic acid (relafan), oxaprozin (daypro), piroxicam (feldene), sodium salicylate, sulindac (clinoril), tolmetin (tolectin), meloxicam, nabumetone, naproxen, lornoxicam, nimesulide, indoprofen, remifenzone, salsalate, tiaprofenic acid, flosulide, and the like;

[0163] analgesics/antipyretics (e.g., aspirin, acetaminophen, ibuprofen, naproxen sodium, buprenorphine hydrochloride, propoxyphene hydrochloride, propoxyphene napsylate, meperidine hydrochloride, hydromorphone hydrochloride, morphine sulfate, oxycodone hydrochloride, codeine phosphate, dihydrocodeine bitartrate, pentazocine hydrochloride, hydrocodone bitartrate, levorphanol tartrate, diflunisal, trolamine salicylate, nalbuphine hydrochloride, mefenamic acid, butorphanol tartrate, choline salicylate, butalbital, phenyltoloxamine citrate, diphenhydramine citrate, methotrimeprazine, cinnamedrine hydrochloride, meproamate, and the like);

[0164] sedatives/hypnotics (e.g., barbiturates (e.g., pentobarbital, pentobarbital sodium, secobarbital sodium), benzodiazapines (e.g., flurazepam hydrochloride, triazolam, tomazepam, midazolam hydrochloride, and the like);

[0165] antianginal agents (e.g., beta-adrenergic blockers, calcium channel blockers (e.g., nifedipine, diltiazem hydrochloride, and the like), nitrates (e.g., nitroglycerin, isosorbide dinitrate, pentaerythritol tetranitrate, erythrityl tetranitrate, and the like));

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[0166] antianxiety agents (e.g., lorazepam, buspirone hydrochloride, prazepam, chlordiazepoxide hydrochloride, oxazepam, clorazepate dipotassium, diazepam, hydroxyzine pamoate, hydroxyzine hydrochloride, alprazolam, droperidol, halazepam, chlormezanone, and the like);

[0167] antidepressants (e.g., doxepin hydrochloride, amoxapine, trazodone hydrochloride, amitriptyline hydrochloride, maprotiline hydrochloride, phenelzine sulfate, desipramine hydrochloride, nortriptyline hydrochloride, tranlycypromine sulfate, fluoxetine hydrochloride, doxepin hydrochloride, imipramine hydrochloride, imipramine pamoate, nortriptyline, amitriptyline hydrochloride, isocarboxazid, desipramine hydrochloride, trimipramine maleate, protriptyline hydrochloride, and the like);

[0168] antipsychotic agents (e.g., haloperidol, loxapine succinate, loxapine hydrochloride, thioridazine, thioridazine hydrochloride, thiothixene, fluphenazine hydrochloride, fluphenazine decanoate, fluphenazine enanthate, trifluoperazine hydrochloride, chlorpromazine hydrochloride, perphenazine, lithium citrate, prochlorperazine, and the like);

[0169] antimanic agents (e.g., lithium carbonate),

[0170] antiarrhythmics (e.g., bretylium tosylate, esmolol hydrochloride, verapamil hydrochloride, amiodarone, encainide hydrochloride, digoxin, digitoxin, mexiletine hydrochloride, disopyramide phosphate, procainamide hydrochloride, quinidine sulfate, quinidine gluconate, quinidine polygalacturonate, flecainide acetate, tocainide hydrochloride, lidocaine hydrochloride, and the like);

[0171] antihypertensive drugs, such as diuretics (hydrochlorothiazide, chlorthalidone, metolazone, indapamide, furosemide, bumetanide, torsemide, triamterene, amiloride, spronolactone), beta-adrenergic blocking agents (acebutolol, atenolol, betaxolol, cartelol, labetalol, metoprolol, nadolol, penbutolol, pindolol, propranolol, timolol), angiotensin converting enzyme inhibitors (benazepril, captopril, enalapril, fosinopril, quinoapril, ramimpril, losartan), calcium channel-blocking agents (diltiazem, verapamil, amlodipine, felodipine, isradipine, nifedipine,

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nifedipine), alpha-adrenoceptor blocking agents, sympatholytics, and vasodilators (such as prazosin, terazosin, doxazosin, clonidine, guanabenz, guanfacine, methylodopa, guanethidine, guanethidine monosulfate, reserpine, hydralazine, minoxidil, and the like), as well as agents such as trimethaphan camsylate, phenoxybenzamine hydrochloride, pargyline hydrochloride, deserpidine, diazoxide, rescinnamine, sodium nitroprusside, rauwolfia serpentina, alseroxylon, phentolamine mesylate, and the like;

[0172] antihistamine/antipruritic drugs, such as ethanolamines (e.g., diphenhydramine, diphenhydramine hydrochloride, clemastine, clemastine fumarate, and the like), ethylenediamines (e.g., brompheniramine, brompheniramine maleate, chlorpheniramine, chlorpheniramine maleate, dexchlorpheniramine maleate, triprolidine, triprolidine hydrochloride, and the like), phenothiazines (e.g., promethazine), piperidines (e.g., hydroxyzine, hydroxyzine hydrochloride, terfenadine, astemizole, azatadine, azatadine maleate, and the like), cyproheptadine, cyproheptadine hydrochloride, loratidine, carbinoxamine maleate, diphenylpyraline hydrochloride, phenindamine tartrate, tripeleminamine hydrochloride, methdilazine hydrochloride, trimiprazine tartrate, and the like;

[0173] immunosuppressants, such as glucocorticoids (methylprednisolone), myelin basic protein (e.g., 7-capaxone), anti-Fc receptor monoclonal antibodies, hydroorotate dehydrogenase inhibitor, anti-IL2 monoclonal antibodies (e.g., CHI-621 and dacliximab), buspirone, castanospermine, CD-59 (complement factor inhibitor), 5-lipoxygenase inhibitor (e.g., CMI-392), phosphatidic acid synthesis antagonists, ebselen, edelfosine, enlimomab, galaptin, platelet activating factor antagonists, selectin antagonists (e.g., ICAM-4), interleukin-10 agonist, macrocyclic lactone, methoxatone, mizoribine, OX-19, peptigen agents, PG-27, protein kinase C inhibitors, phosphodiesterase IV inhibitor, single chain antigen binding proteins, complement factor inhibitor, sialophorin, sirolimus, spirocyclic lactams, 5-hydroxytryptamine antagonist, anti-TCR monoclonal antibodies, CD5 gelonin and TOK-8801, and the like;

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[0174] antimetabolite cytotoxics (azathioprine, cyclophosphamide), C5a release inhibitor, benzydamine, peldesine, pentostatin, SDZ-ASM-981, thalidomide, benzoporphyrin derivatives, arachidonate antagonists (e.g., halometasone, halobetasol propionate), corticosteriod (clobetasol propionate), growth hormone antagonists (octapeptide somatostatin analogue, lanreotide, angiopeptin and dermopeptin), thymopentin, and the like;

[0175] neuroprotective agents, such as α -adrenoreceptor antagonist (i.e., α -dihydroergocryptine), NMDA antagonists (e.g., 5,6,7-tichloro-THQTQ, remacemide, 2-piperazinecarboxylic acid, N-indologlycinamide derivatives, spiro[benzo(b)]thiophen-4(5H) derivatives, CP-101606, eliprodil, dexanabinol, GV-150526, L-695902, L-701324, amantadine derivatives, dizocilpine, benzomorphan derivatives, aptiganel, (S)- α -phenyl-2-pyridine ethanamide dihydrochloride and 1-amino-cyclopentanecarboxylic acid), sodium channel antagonists (e.g., 619C89), glycine antagonists (e.g., glystasins), calcium channel antagonists (e.g., 3,5-pyridinedicarboxylic acid derivatives, conopeptides, 1-piperazineethanol, thieno[2,3-b]pyridine-5-carboxylic acid derivatives, NS-3034, nilvadipine, nisoldipine, tirilazad mesylate, 2H-1-enzopyran-6-ol, nitron spin traps, iacidipine, iomeerzine hydrochloride, lemildipine, lifarizine, CPC-304, efonidipine, F-0401, piperazine derivatives), calpain inhibitors, fibrinogen antagonists (e.g., ancrod), integrin antagonists (e.g., antegren), thromboxane A₂ antagonist (e.g., 9H-carbazole-9-propanoic acid derivatives, 5-Heptenoic acid derivatives and 1-azulenesulfonic acid derivatives), brain-derived neurotropic factor, adrenergic transmitter uptake inhibitor (e.g., 1-butanamine), endothelin A receptor antagonists (e.g., benzenesulfonamide derivatives, GABA A receptor antagonists (e.g., triazolopyrimidine derivatives and cyclohexaneacetic acid derivatives), GPIIb IIIa receptor antagonists (e.g., C68-22), platelet aggregation antagonist (e.g., 2(1H)-quinolinone derivatives, 1H-pyrrole-1-acetic acid derivatives and coumadin), Factor Xa inhibitor, CPC-211, corticotropin releasing factor agonist, thrombin inhibitor (e.g., cothrombins, fraxiparine, dermatan sulfate and heparinoid), dotarizine, intracellular calcium chelators (e.g., BAPTA derivatives), radical formation antagonists (EPC-K1, 3-pyridinecarboxamide derivatives, superoxide dismutase, raxofelast, lubeluzole, 3H-pyrazol-3-one

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derivatives, kynurenic acid derivatives, homopiperazine derivatives, and polynitroxyl albumin), protein kinase inhibitors (e.g., 1H-1,4-diazepine), nerve growth agonist (e.g., floor plate factor-5), glutamate antagonist (e.g., cyclohexanepropanoic acid, riluzole, NS-409 and acetamide derivatives), lipid peroxidase inhibitor (e.g., 2,5-cyclohexadiene-1,4-dione derivatives), sigma receptor agonist (e.g., cyclopropanemethanamine derivatives and SA-4503), thyrotropin releasing hormone agonist (e.g., JTP-2942, L-prolinamide and posatirelin), prolyl endopeptidase inhibitor, monosialoganglioside GM1, proteolytic enzyme inhibitor (e.g., nafamostat), neutrophil inhibitory factor, platelet activating factor antagonist (e.g., nupafant), monoamine oxidase B inhibitor (e.g., parafluoroselegiline and benzonitrile derivatives), PARS inhibitors, Angiotensin I converting enzyme inhibitor (e.g., perindopril and ramipril), acetylcholine agonist (e.g., pramiracetam), protein synthesis antagonist (e.g., procysteine), phosphodiesterase inhibitor (e.g., propentofylline), opioid kappa receptor agonist (e.g., 10H-phenothiazine-2-carboxamine derivatives), complement factor inhibitor (sCRI fragments), somatomedin-1, carnitine acetyltransferase stimulant (e.g., acetylcarnitine), and the like;

[0176] T cell inhibitors such as synthetic leucocyte antigen derived peptides, interleukin-1 receptor antagonist, MG/AnergiX, anti-CD3 monoclonal antibodies, anti-CD23 monoclonal antibodies, anti-CD28 antibodies, anti-CD2 monoclonal antibodies, CD4 antagonists, anti-E selectin antibodies, MHC inhibitors, monogens, mycophenolate mofetil, LRA-1 inhibitors, selectin inhibitors, and the like;

[0177] antimigraine agents, such as MK-462, 324C91, Phytomedicine, (S)-fluoxetine, calcium channel antagonists (e.g., nimodipine/Nimotop, flunarizine, dotarizine/FI-6026, iomerizine HCL/KB-2796, CPC-304, and CPC-317), α -dihydroergocryptine, 5-HT₁ agonists, (e.g., Sumatriptan/Imitrex, Imigran, GR-85548, 311C, and GR-127607), 5-HT_{1D} agonists, 5-HT_{1A} antagonists, 5-HT_{1B} antagonists (e.g., CP-93129), 5-HT_{1D} antagonists (e.g., 1H-indole-5-ethanesulfonamide derivatives and 1H-indole-5-methanesulfonamide), 5-HT_{1D} receptor cloned (e.g., 5-HT_{1D} agents), 2-thiophenecarboxamide, 3-piperidinamine, diclofenac potassium, dihydroergotamine (e.g., DHE 45[®]), ergotamine tartrate, dolasetron mesilate,

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dotarizine, flupirtine, histamine-H3 receptor agonist, indobufen, 1-azulenesulfonic acid derivatives, cholinesterase inhibitors, (e.g., S-9977), bradykinin antagonists, nitric oxide reductase inhibitors (e.g., BN-52296), nitric oxide receptor antagonists, substance P antagonists (e.g., Capsaicin/Nasocap), endopeptidase inhibitors (e.g., neutral endopeptidase, cloned), piperazine derivatives, neurokinin 1 antagonists, metergoline, dopamine D2 antagonist (e.g., metoclopramide+lysine acetyl), enkephalinase inhibitors (e.g., neutral endopeptidase), 5-HT2 antagonists (e.g., LY-053857), 5-HT3 antagonists (e.g., Dolasetron mesilate/MDL-73147, and 4H-carbazol-4-one derivatives), tenosal, tolfenamic acid, cyclooxygenase inhibitors (e.g., carbasalate/carbaspirin calcium, and tenosal/MR-Y134), alpha adrenoreceptor antagonists (e.g., arotinolol, and dihydroergocryptine), opioid agonists (e.g., flupirtine/D-9998), beta adrenergic antagonists (e.g., propranolol), valproate semisodium, propranolol hydrochloride, isometheptene mucate, dichloralphenazone, and the like;

[0178] antiarthritic agents, such as anti-CD4 monoclonal antibodies, phospholipase A1 inhibitor, loteprednol, tobramycin, combinations of loteprednol and tobramycin, salnacedin, amiprilose, anakinra, anergix, anti-B7 antibody, anti-CD3H, anti-gp39, anti-MHC MAbs, antirheumatic peptides, anti-Tac(Fv)-PE40, AP-1 inhibitors, AR-324, purine nucleotide phosphorylase inhibitors (e.g., BCX-5), bindarit, CD2 antagonist (e.g., BTI-322), campath-1H, CD4 antagonist (e.g., CE9.1 and SB-210396), tumor necrosis factor antagonist (e.g., p80 TNFR, rhTNFbp, peptide T, CenTNF, thalidomide, CDP-571 and TBP-1), cobra venom factor, interleukin 1a agonist (e.g., cytogenin), interleukin 2 receptor antagonist (e.g., dacliximab), ICAM 1 antagonist (e.g., enlimomab), interleukin 1 beta converting enzyme inhibitors (e.g., ICE-inhibitors), interferons (e.g., thymocartin), interleukin-10, interleukin-13, interleukin 1 antagonist (e.g., SR-31747 and TJ-114), interleukin-2 antagonist (e.g., sirolimus), phospholipase C inhibitor, neurokinin 1 antagonist (e.g., L-733060), laflunimus, leflunomide, leucotriene antagonists, levamisole, LFA3TIP, macrocyclic lactone, MHC class II inhibitors, mizoribine, mycophenolate mofetil, NfκB inhibitors, oncolysin CD6, peldesine, pidotimod, PKC-RACK inhibitors, PNP inhibitors, reumacon, CD28 antagonist, roquinimex, RWJ-50271, subreum, T7 vector,

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tacrolimus, VLA antagonist (e.g., TBC-772), transforming growth factor beta agonist, methionine synthase inhibitors (e.g., vitamin B12 antagonist), adenosine A2 receptor agonist (e.g., YT-146), CD5 antagonist (e.g., zolimomab), 5-lipoxygenase inhibitor (e.g., zileuton, tenidap, and ABT-761), cyclooxygenase inhibitor (e.g., tenoxicam, talmetacin, piroxicam, piroxicam cinnamate, oxaprozin, NXTHIO, ML-3000, mofezolac, nabumetone, flurbiprofen, aceclofenac, diclofenac, and dexibuprofen), metalloproteinase inhibitor (e.g., XR-168, TNF convertase inhibitors, GI-155704A, AG-3340 and BB-2983), nitric oxide synthase inhibitors (i.e., ARL-16556), phospholipase A2 inhibitor (e.g., ARL-67974), selectin antagonist (e.g., CAM inhibitors), leucotriene B4 antagonist (e.g., CGS-25019C), collagenase inhibitor (e.g., GR-129574A), cyclooxygenase 2 inhibitor (e.g., meloxicam), thromboxane synthase inhibitor (e.g., curcumin), cysteine protease inhibitor (e.g., GR-373), metalloproteinase inhibitor (D-5410), lipocortins synthesis agonist (e.g., rimexolone, predonisolone 21-farnesylate, HYC-141, and deflazacort), chelating agent (diacerein), elastase inhibitors, DNA directed RNA polymerase inhibitor (e.g., estrogens), oxygen radical formation antagonist (e.g., glucosamine sulfate), thrombin inhibitors (e.g., GS-522), collagen inhibitors (e.g., halofuginone), hyaluronic acid agonist (e.g., NRD-101, hylan, Dispasan, and Hyalart), nitric oxide antagonists (e.g., hydroxocobalamin), stromelysin inhibitors (e.g., L-758354), prostaglandin E1 agonist (e.g., misoprostol, and misoprostol+diclofenac), dihydrofolate reductase inhibitor (e.g., trimetrexate, and MX-68), opioid antagonist (e.g., nalmefene), corticotropin releasing factor antagonist (e.g., NBI-103, and NBI-104), proteolytic enzyme inhibitor (e.g., protease nexin-1, and NCY-2010), bradykinin antagonist (e.g., tachykinin antagonists, and NPC-17731), growth hormone antagonist (e.g., octreotide), phosphodiesterase IV inhibitor (e.g., PDEIV inhibitors), gelatinase inhibitor (e.g., REGA-3G12), free radical scavengers (e.g., SIDR-1026), prostaglandin synthase inhibitors (e.g., sulfasalazine), phenylbutazone, penicillamine, salsalate, azathioprine, indomethacin, meclofenamate sodium, gold sodium thiomalate, ketoprofen, auranofin, aurothioglucose, tolmetin sodium, and the like;

[0179] antigout agents (e.g., colchicine, allopurinol, and the like);

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- [0180] anticoagulants (e.g., heparin, heparin sodium, warfarin sodium, and the like);
- [0181] thrombolytic agents (e.g., urokinase, streptokinase, alteplase, and the like);
- [0182] antifibrinolytic agents (e.g., aminocaproic acid);
- [0183] hemorheologic agents (e.g., pentoxifylline);
- [0184] antiplatelet agents (e.g., aspirin, empirin, ascriptin, and the like);
- [0185] anticonvulsants (e.g., valproic acid, divalproate sodium, phenytoin, phenytoin sodium, clonazepam, primidone, phenobarbital, phenobarbital sodium, carbamazepine, amobarbital sodium, methsuximide, metharbital, mephobarbital, mephentyoin, phensuximide, paramethadione, ethotoin, phenacemide, secobarbital sodium, clorazepate dipotassium, trimethadione, and the like);
- [0186] agents useful for calcium regulation (e.g., calcitonin, parathyroid hormone, and the like);
- [0187] antibacterial agents (e.g., amikacin sulfate, aztreonam, chloramphenicol, chloramphenicol palmitate, chloramphenicol sodium succinate, ciprofloxacin hydrochloride, clindamycin hydrochloride, clindamycin palmitate, clindamycin phosphate, metronidazole, metronidazole hydrochloride, gentamicin sulfate, lincomycin hydrochloride, tobramycin sulfate, vancomycin hydrochloride, polymyxin B sulfate, colistimethate sodium, colistin sulfate, and the like);
- [0188] antifungal agents (e.g., griseofulvin, keloconazole, and the like);
- [0189] antiviral agents (e.g., interferon gamma, zidovudine, amantadine hydrochloride, ribavirin, acyclovir, and the like);
- [0190] antimicrobials (e.g., cephalosporins (e.g., cefazolin sodium, cephadrine, cefaclor, cephapirin sodium, ceftizoxime sodium, cefoperazone sodium, cefotetan disodium, cefutaxime azotil, cefotaxime sodium, cefadroxil monohydrate,

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ceftazidime, cephalexin, cephalothin sodium, cephalexin hydrochloride monohydrate, cefamandole nafate, cefoxitin sodium, cefonicid sodium, ceforanide, ceftriaxone sodium, ceftazidime, cefadroxil, cephradine, cefuroxime sodium, and the like), penicillins (e.g., ampicillin, amoxicillin, penicillin G benzathine, cyclacillin, ampicillin sodium, penicillin G potassium, penicillin V potassium, piperacillin sodium, oxacillin sodium, bacampicillin hydrochloride, cloxacillin sodium, ticarcillin disodium, azlocillin sodium, carbenicillin indanyl sodium, penicillin G potassium, penicillin G procaine, methicillin sodium, nafcillin sodium, and the like), erythromycins (e.g., erythromycin ethylsuccinate, erythromycin, erythromycin estolate, erythromycin lactobionate, erythromycin stearate, erythromycin ethylsuccinate, and the like), tetracyclines (e.g., tetracycline hydrochloride, doxycycline hyclate, minocycline hydrochloride, and the like), and the like);

[0191] antioxidants (e.g., N-acetylcysteine, Vitamin A, Vitamin C, Vitamin E, β -carotene, EUK-8, flavonoids, glutathione, α -lipoic acid, melatonin, retinols, and the like);

[0192] anti-infectives (e.g., miconazole, vidarabine, inosine, pranobex, vidarabine, inosine prabonex, cefpimizole sodium), fradiomycin, and the like);

[0193] bronchodilators (e.g., sympathomimetics (e.g., epinephrine hydrochloride, metaproterenol sulfate, terbutaline sulfate, isoetharine, isoetharine mesylate, isoetharine hydrochloride, albuterol sulfate, albuterol, bitolterol, mesylate isoproterenol hydrochloride, terbutaline sulfate, epinephrine bitartrate, metaproterenol sulfate, epinephrine, epinephrine bitartrate), anticholinergic agents (e.g., ipratropium bromide), xanthines (e.g., aminophylline, dyphylline, metaproterenol sulfate, aminophylline), mast cell stabilizers (e.g., cromolyn sodium), inhalant corticosteroids (e.g., flunisolide, beclomethasone dipropionate, beclomethasone dipropionate monohydrate), salbutamol, beclomethasone dipropionate (BDP), ipratropium bromide, budesonide, ketotifen, salmeterol, xinafoate, terbutaline sulfate, triamcinolone, theophylline, nedocromil sodium, metaproterenol sulfate, albuterol, flunisolide, and the like);

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[0194] hormones (e.g., androgens (e.g., danazol, testosterone cypionate, fluoxymesterone, ethyltestosterone, testosterone enanthate, methyltestosterone, fluoxymesterone, testosterone cypionate), estrogens (e.g., estradiol, estropipate, conjugated estrogens), progestins (e.g., methoxyprogesterone acetate, norethindrone acetate), corticosteroids (e.g., triamcinolone, betamethasone, betamethasone sodium phosphate, dexamethasone, dexamethasone sodium phosphate, dexamethasone acetate, prednisone, methylprednisolone acetate suspension, triamcinolone acetonide, methylprednisolone, prednisolone sodium phosphate methylprednisolone sodium succinate, hydrocortisone sodium succinate, methylprednisolone sodium succinate, triamcinolone hexacetonide, hydrocortisone, hydrocortisone cypionate, prednisolone, fluorocortisone acetate, paramethasone acetate, prednisolone tebutate, prednisolone acetate, prednisolone sodium phosphate, hydrocortisone sodium succinate, and the like), thyroid hormones (e.g., levothyroxine sodium) and the like), and the like;

[0195] hypoglycemic agents (e.g., human insulin, purified beef insulin, purified pork insulin, glyburide, chlorpropamide, glipizide, tolbutamide, tolazamide, and the like);

[0196] hypolipidemic agents (e.g., clofibrate, dextrothyroxine sodium, probucol, lovastatin, niacin, and the like);

[0197] proteins (e.g., DNase, alginase, superoxide dismutase, lipase, and the like);

[0198] nucleic acids (e.g., sense or anti-sense nucleic acids encoding any therapeutically active protein, including the proteins described herein, and the like);

[0199] agents useful for erythropoiesis stimulation (e.g., erythropoietin);

[0200] antiulcer/antireflux agents (e.g., famotidine, cimetidine, ranitidine hydrochloride, and the like);

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[0201] antinauseants/antiemetics (e.g., meclizine hydrochloride, nabilone, prochlorperazine, dimenhydrinate, promethazine hydrochloride, thiethylperazine, scopolamine, and the like);

[0202] septic shock agents, such as angiogenesis inhibitors (OLX-514), bradykinin antagonists (e.g., CP-0502, and NPC-17731), complement factor inhibitors (e.g., C3 convertase inhibitor), C5a release inhibitors (e.g., CAB-2.1), dopamine agonists (e.g., dopexamine), elastase inhibitors (e.g., ONO-5046), E selectin antagonists (e.g., CY-1787), farnesyltransferase inhibitors (RBE limonene), immunostimulants (e.g., CGP-19835A, lipid A vaccine, edobacomab, nebacumab, StaphGAM, and diabodies), immunosuppressants (e.g., CytoTAB, and transcyclopentanyl purine analogues), interleukin 1 antagonists (e.g., interleukin 1 receptors), interleukin 1 receptor antagonists (e.g., anakinra), interleukin 1b antagonists (e.g., interleukin-1 β), interleukin 1beta converting enzyme inhibitors (e.g., ICE-inhibitors), interleukin 8 antagonists (e.g., IL-8 receptor), interleukin 13 agonists (e.g., intereleukin-13), ITF-1697, lipase clearing factor inhibitors (e.g., SC-59735), membrane permeability enhancers (e.g., Bactericidal Permeability Increasing protein/BPI), nitric oxide antagonists (e.g., hydroxocobalamin), nitric oxide synthase inhibitors (e.g., L-NMMA, and α -methyl-N-delta-iminoethyl-ornithine), P2 receptor stimulants (e.g., ATP analogues), phosphatidic acid synthesis antagonists (e.g., lisofylline), phospholipase A2 inhibitors (e.g., S-448, acylpyrrole-alkanoic acid derivatives, and indoleacetic acid derivatives), platelet activating factor antagonists (e.g., ABT-299, TCV-309, SM-12502, (2RS,4R)-3-(2-(3-pyridinyl)thiazolidin-4-oyl)indoles, UR-12670, and E-5880), prostacyclin agonists (e.g., taprostene), prostaglandin E1 agonists (e.g., TLC C-53), protein kinase inhibitors (e.g., SB-203580), protein kinase C inhibitors, protein synthesis antagonists (e.g., procysteine), proteolytic enzyme inhibitors (e.g., nafamostat), SDZ-PMX-622, selectin antagonists (e.g., sulfated glycolipid cell adhesion inhibitors), thrombin inhibitors (e.g., GS-522), TNF receptor-Ig, tumor necrosis factor antagonists (e.g., anti-TNF MAbs, MAK-195F, TBP-I, Yeda, rhTNFbp, and CDP-571), tumor necrosis factor alpha antagonists (e.g., E-5531), and the like;

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[0203] multiple sclerosis agents, such as 4-aminopyridine, 15-deoxyspergualin, ACTH, amantadine, antibody adjuvants (e.g., poly-ICLC, and poly-IC+poly-L-lysine+carboxymethylcellulose), anti-cytokine MAb (CDP-835), anti-inflammatory (e.g., CY-1787, and CY-1503), anti-selectin MAb (e.g., CY-1787), anti-TCR MAb (e.g., NBI-114, NBI-115, and NBI-116), baclofen, bethanechol chloride, carbamazepine, carbohydrate drugs (e.g., CY-1503), clonazepam, CNS and immune system function modulators (e.g., NBI-106, and NBI-107), cyclophosphamide, cyclosporine A, cytokines (e.g., IFN- α , alfaferone, IFN- β 1b, betaseron, TGF- β 2, PEG-TGF- β 2, betakine, IFN- β /Rebif, frone, interferon- β , and IFN- β), CD4+T cell inhibitors (e.g., AnergiX), CD28 antagonists (e.g., B7-1, B7-2, and CD28), direct cytotoxicity therapies (e.g., benzoporphyrin derivative (BPD)), FK-506, growth factors (e.g., glial growth factor, GGF, nerve growth factors, TGF- β 2, PEG-TGF- β 2, and betakine), humanized MAb (e.g., anti-IFN- γ MAb, smart anti-IFN- γ MAb, anti-Tac antibody, and smart anti-Tac antibody), humanized anti-CD4 MAb (e.g., anti-CD4 MAb, cantara), hydrolase stimulants (e.g., castanospermine), IFN- α , IFN- γ antagonist (e.g., anti-IFN- γ MAb, and smart anti-IFN- γ MAb), IL-2 antagonists (e.g., tacrolimus, FK-506, FR-900506, Fujimycin, Prograf, IL-2 fusion toxin, and DAB₃₈₉ IL-2), IL-4 antagonists (e.g., IL-4 fusion toxin, and DAB₃₈₉ IL-4), immune-mediated neuronal damage inhibitors (e.g., NBI-114, NBI-115, and NBI-116), immunoglobins, immunostimulants (e.g., poly-ICLC, edelfosine, ALP, ET-18-OCH₃, ET-18-OME, NSC-24, and poly-IC+poly-L-lysine+carboxymethylcellulose), immunosuppressants (e.g., azathioprine, AI-100 animal protein, rDNA human protein AI-101, peptide, AI-102, castanospermine, tacrolimus, FK-506, FR-900506, Fujimycin, Prograf, anti-leukointegrin MAb, Hu23F2G, primatized anti-CD4 antibody, CE9.1, Galaptin 14-1, GL14-1, Lectin-1, recombinant IML-1, linomide, roquinimex, LS-2616, transcyclo-pentanyl purine analogs, MS-6044, spanidin, 15-deoxyspergualin, deoxyspergiline, gusperimus HCL, NSC-356894, NKT-01, TCR, CD3/Ti, cyclosporine, OL-27-400, Sandimmune, Human IL-10, monogens, anti-TCR MAbs, TCAR MAbs, Monogen TM19, Monogen TM27, Monogen TM29, Monogen TM31, peptigen TP12, anti-CD4 MAb, cantara, immunophilins, VX-10367, VX-10393, VX-10428, synthetic basic copolymer of amino acids, copolymer-1, COP-1, T

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lymphocyte immunofusion (TIF) protein, and cyclophosphamide), integrin antagonists (e.g., anti-integrin (cell adhesion molecule $\alpha 4 \beta 1$ integrin) MAbs, AN-100225, and AN-100226), interferon agonists (e.g., poly-ICLC, and poly-IC+poly-L-lysine+carboxymethylcellulose), interferon- β -1b, isoprinosine, IV methylprednisolone, macrolides (e.g., tacrolimus, FK-506, FR-900506, Fujimycin, and Prograf), MAO B inhibitors (e.g., selegiline, and Parkinyl), methotrexate, mitoxantrone, muscle relaxants (e.g., RGH-5002), muscarinic antagonists (e.g., RGH-5002), neurosteroids (e.g., NBI-106, and NBI-107), octapeptides (e.g., peptide T), oxybutinin chloride, oxygen free radical antagonists (e.g., tetrandrine, biobenzylisoquinoline alkaloid), peptide agonists (e.g., peptide T), phenoxybenzamine, phospholipase C inhibitors (e.g., edelfosine, ALP, ET-18-OCH₃, ET-18-OME, NSC-24), photodynamic therapies (e.g., benzoporphyrin derivative (BPD)), plasmapheresis, platelet activating factor antagonists (e.g., ginkgolide B, and BN-52021), potassium channel antagonists (e.g., aminodiaquine, and EL-970), propranolol, prostaglandin synthase inhibitors (e.g., sulfasalazine, salazosulapyridine, PJ-306, SI-88, azulfidine, salazopyrin), protease antagonists (e.g., ginkgolide B, and BN-52021), recombinant soluble IL-1 receptors, spergualin analogs (e.g., spanidin, 15-deoxyspergualin, deoxyspergiline, gusperimus HCl, NSC-356894, NKT-01), TCR peptide decoys (e.g., NBI-114, NBI-115, and NBI-116), TCR peptidomimetic decoys (e.g., NBI-114, NBI-115, and NBI-116), TCR peptide vaccines (e.g., AI-208 (V β 6.2/6.5 phenotype)), selectin antagonists (e.g., lectin-1, and recombinant IML-1), soluble TNF receptor I, TCARs (e.g., TCR, CD3/Ti, and peptigen TP12), TNF antagonists (e.g., thalidomide, and TNF inhibitors), tricyclic antidepressants, and the like;

[0204] organ transplantation agents, such as anti-CD25 MAbs, anti-Tac antibodies, anti-TNF MAb (e.g., CDP571), apoptosin, azathioprimines (e.g., imuran), BCX-34, CA3, CD28, complement inhibiting factors (e.g., CD59), CTLA4Ig, cyclosporines (e.g., CsA), FK-506/rapamycin binding proteins (FKBP), glucocorticoids, humanized version of OKT3 (e.g., huOKT3-185), mycophenolate mofetil, hydroorotate dehydrogenase inhibitors (e.g., Brequinar), orthoclone OKT3 (e.g., IgG2a anti-T cell murine monoclonal antibody, and muromonab-CD3),

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rapamycins (e.g., AY-22989), and streptomyces isolates (e.g., FR-900520, and FR-900523), and the like;

[0205] systemic lupus erythematosus (SLE) agents, such as androgen-derived steroids (e.g., Org-4094), anti-CD4 humanized antibodies, anti-DNA/V-88, anti-idiotypic murine MAb (e.g., anti-idiotypic antibody to 3E10/MAb1C7), CD2 antagonists (e.g., CD2), complement inhibitors (e.g., recombinant MCP-based complement inhibitors), cyclosporines (e.g., Sandimmune, cyclosporine analog, OG-37325, cyclosporin-G, and NVal-CyA), cytokines (e.g., IL-4 fusion toxin), cytokine receptor antagonists (e.g., immunomodulatory cytokines), E-selectin antagonists (e.g., anti-ELAM, and CY-1787), FK506/tacrolimus (e.g., Prograf), hypercalcemic agents (e.g., KH-1060), IFN- γ antagonists (e.g., anti-IFN- γ MAb, and smart anti-IFN- γ MAb), IL-1 β converting enzyme inhibitors (ICE), IL-2 produced by E. coli (e.g., celmoleukin, IL-2, TGP-3, and Celeuk), immunoglobulins (e.g., anti-ELAM, CY-1788, and humanized CY-1787), immunostimulants (e.g., thymotrinan, RGH-0205, and TP3), immunosuppressants (e.g., Rapamycin, AY-22989, NSC-226080, NSC-606698, anti-CD4, T-cell inhibitor, anti-tac MAb, smart anti-tac MAb, MigisTM (membrane immunoglobulin-isotope specific) antibodies, SM-8849, immunophilins, VX-10367, VX-10393, VX-10428, mycophenolate mofetil, ME-MPA, RS-61444, OL-27-400, Sandimmune, IL-4 fusion toxin, trypanosomal inhibitory factor (TIF), T-cell receptor, CD3/Ti, Org-4094, anti-TBM, CP 17193, Leflunomide/A-77-1726, ELAM-1, AnergiX, Spanidin, 15-deoxyspergualin, deoxyspurgiline, gusperimus hydrochloride, NSC-356894, NKT-01, Roquinimex, LS-2616, linomide, LJP-394, and CD-59 antigen), immunotoxins (e.g., Zolimomab aritox, xmmly-h65-rta, xomazyme-lym/CD5-Plus, OrthoZyme-CD5+, XomaZyme-H65-rta, Xomazyme-CD5 Plus), intravenous immunoglobulins (e.g., IVIG), integrin antagonists (e.g., integrin blockers), murine MAb (e.g., anti-SLE vaccine, and MAb 3E10), primatized anti-CD4 antibodies (e.g., CE9.1), protease inhibitors (e.g., matrix metalloprotease (MMP) inhibitors, and stromelysin), protein synthesis antagonists (e.g., anti-CD6-bR, anti-T12-bR, and oncolysin CD6), purine nucleoside phosphorylase inhibitors (e.g., BCX-25, and BCX-14), selectin antagonists (e.g., CY1503, and Cylexin), spergualin analogues (e.g., Spanidin, 15-deoxyspergualin, deoxyspurgiline, gusperimus

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hydrochloride, NSC-356894, and NKT-01), T cell inhibitors (e.g., AnergiX), tumor necrosis factor (TNF) antagonists, and the like;

[0206] Alzheimer's disease agents, such as ACh release enhancers (e.g., T-588 (benzothiophene derivative)), acetylcholine release stimulants (e.g., DUP-996 and analogues), AMPA agonists (e.g., AMAlex, and Isoxazole compound series), AMPA GluR agonist (e.g., IDRA-21 [7-chloro-3-methyl-3,4-dihydro-2H-1,2,4-benzothiadiazine]), AMPA GluR antagonists (e.g., S-18986, and related quinolone derivatives), anticholinesterases (e.g., E-2020), Ca-antagonists (e.g., NS-649, spider venom-derived ICM peptides and analogues, and substituted 2-aminoindanes compound series), combined anticholinesterase and muscarinic AChR antagonists (e.g., PD142676), K-channel blockers (e.g., Trans-R-4-(4-methoxyphenyl-methyl)cyclohexylamine and analogues, and margatoxin-based functional and/or structural analogues), MI muscarinic receptor agonists (e.g., Xanomeline), NMDA antagonists (e.g., certain indole derivatives, and (R-(R¹,S¹))-α-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-beta-methyl-4-(phenylmenthyl)-1-piperidinepropanol and analogues), nicotinic AChR agonists (e.g., ABT-418 [isoxazole, 3-meth-5-(1-meth-2-pyrrolidinyl)]), and the like;

[0207] antiparkinson agents (e.g., ethosuximide, and the like);

[0208] psoriasis agents, such as 5-LO inhibitors (e.g., Wy-50295, Wy-49232, Lonapalene, RS-43179, MK-886, L-663536, ETH-615, DUP-654, Zileuton, epocarbazolin-A, and A-64077), 5-LO/CO inhibitors (e.g., BF-397, Tenidap, CP-309, and CP-66248), angiogenesis inhibitors (e.g., platelet factor 4), anticancer antibiotic (e.g., AGM-1470, and TNP-470), anti-inflammatory cytochrome P450 oxidoreductase inhibitors (e.g., DuP-630, and DuP-983), antiproliferative compounds (e.g., Zyn-Linker), arachidonic acid analogues (e.g., CD581, and CD554), arachidonic acid antagonists (e.g., Lonapalene, RS-43179, triamcinolone acetonide with penetration enhancer Azone, betamethasone dipropionate steroid wipe, G-202, Halobetasol propionate, ultravate, Halometasone, C-48401-Ba, and Sicorten), beta-glucan receptor antagonists, betamethasone steroid wipes, calcium metabolic moderators (e.g., Tacalcitol, Bonealfa, TV-02 ointment, Ro-23-6474, KH-1060, Calcipotriol, BMS-181161, BMY-30434, Dovonex, and Divonex), CD4 binding inhibitors (e.g., PIC

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060), cell adhesion compounds (e.g., CY-726, VCAM-1, ELAM-1, and ICAM), cell adhesion inhibitors (e.g., selectin inhibitor, GM-1930), cellular aging inhibitors (e.g., Factor X), corticosteroids (e.g., Halobetasol propionate, ultravate, Halometasone, C-48401-Ba, and Sicorten), cyclosporin analogues (e.g., IMM-125), dihydrofolate reductase inhibitors (e.g., G-301, dichlorobenzoprim, methotrexate, and methotrexate in microsphere delivery system), E-selectin inhibitors (e.g., ISIS 4730), endogenous active form of vitamin D₃ (e.g., Calcitriol, and Du-026325), fibroblast growth factor antagonists (e.g., Saporin mitotoxin, and Steno-Stat), fumagillin analogues (e.g., AGM-1470, and TNP-470), G-proteins and signal transduction compounds (e.g., CPC-A), gel formulations for acne (e.g., nicotinamide, N-547, and Papulex), growth hormone antagonists (e.g., Octreotide, Sandostatin, Lanreotide, angiopeptin, BIM-23014, and Somatuline), humanized antibodies (e.g., anti-CD4 antibody), hydroxycarotene dehydrogenase inhibitors (e.g., Brequinar sodium, bipenquinat, and DuP-785), ICAM-1 inhibitors (e.g., ISIS 939), IL-1 and other cytokine inhibitors (e.g., Septanil), IL-1 converting enzyme inhibitors, IL-1 receptor antagonists (e.g., Anril), IL-2 antagonists (e.g., Tacrolimus, Prograf, and FK-506), IL-2 receptor-targeted fusion toxins (DAB389IL-2), IL-8 receptors, immunostimulants (e.g., Thymopentin, and Timunox), immunosuppressants (e.g., XomaZyme-CD5 Plus, cyclosporine, Sandimmune, SR-31747, anti-CD11, 18 MAb, Tacrolimus, Prograf, FK-506, and FK-507), immunosuppressive agents targeting FK506 (e.g., immunophilins, VX-10367, and VX-10428), immunotoxins MAb directed against CD antigen (e.g., XomaZyme-CD5 Plus), leukotriene antagonists (e.g., Sch-40120, Wy-50295, and Wy-49232), leukotriene B₄ antagonists (e.g., SC-41930, SC-50605, SC-48928, ONO-4057, LB-457, LY-255283, LY-177455, LY-223982, LY-223980, and LY-255253), leukotriene synthesis inhibitors (MK-886, and L-663536), lipase clearing factor inhibitors (e.g., 1-docosanol, and lidakol), lipid encapsulated reducing agent (e.g., Dithranol), liposomal gel (e.g., Dithranol), LO inhibitors (e.g., CD581, CD554, Masoprocol, and Actinex), lithium succinate ointments (e.g., lithium salts, and Efalith), LO/CO inhibitors (e.g., P-8892, P-8977, CHX-108, and FPL-62064), membrane integrity agonists (e.g., lithium salts, and Efalith), microtubule inhibitors (e.g., Porphyrinotoxin-containing compound, and Psorex), octapeptide somatostatin

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analogues (e.g., Lanreotide, angiopeptin, BIM-23014, and Somatuline), oligonucleotides (e.g., ISIS 4730, ISIS 3801, ISIS 1939, and IL-1 inhibitors), peptide agonists (e.g., octapeptide, and peptide T), PKC inhibitors, phospholipase A2 compounds, phospholipase D compounds, photodynamic anticancer agents (e.g., 5-aminolevulinic acid, and 5-ALA), photodynamic therapies (e.g., benzoporphyrin derivative, synthetic chlorins, synthetic porphyrins, and EF-9), photosensitizer (e.g., Porfimer sodium), PKC inhibitors (e.g., Safingol, and Kynac), platelet activating factor antagonists (e.g., TCV-309), platelet aggregation inhibitors (e.g., CPC-A), prodrug NSAIDs (e.g., G-201), prostaglandin agonist (e.g., eicosapentaenoic acid+gamma-linolenic acid combination, and Efamol Marine), protein inhibitors (e.g., SPC-103600, and SPC-101210), protein kinase C (PKC) inhibitors (e.g., Ro-31-7549, Ro-31-8161, and Ro-31-8220), protein synthesis antagonists (e.g., Calcitriol, Du-026325, LG-1069, LG-1064, AGN-190168, Namirotenone, and CBS-211A), purine nucleoside phosphorylase inhibitors (e.g., BCX-34), radical formation agonists (e.g., benzoporphyrin derivative), recombinant antileukoproteins (e.g., ALP-242), retinoids (e.g., BMY-30123, LG-1069, and LG-1064), retinoid derivatives (e.g., AGN-190168), rapamycin binding proteins (FKBP) (e.g., immunophilins, VX-10367, and VX-10428), second generation monoaromatic retinoids (e.g., Acitretin, and Neotigason), soluble IL-1, IL-4 and IL-7 receptors, somatostatin and somatostatin analogues (e.g., Octreotide, and Sandostatin), steroids, (e.g., AGN-191743), streptomyces anulatus isolates (e.g., epocarbazolin-A), superoxide dismutase (e.g., EC-SOD-B), thymidylate synthase inhibitors (e.g., AG-85, MPI-5002, 5-FU in biodegradable gel-like matrix, 5-FU and epinephrine in biodegradable gel-like matrix, and AccuSite), topical formulations (e.g., P-0751, and P-0802), transglutaminase inhibitors, tyrphostin EGF receptor kinase blockers (e.g., AG-18, and AG-555), VCAM-1 inhibitors (e.g., ISIS 3801), vitamin D analogues (e.g., Ro-23-6474, KH-1060, Calcipotriol, BMS-181161, BMY-30434, Dovonex, and Divonex), vitamin D₃ analogues (e.g., Tacalcitol, Bonealfa, TV-02 ointment), and vitamin D₃ derivatives (e.g., 1,2-diOH-vitamin D₃), and the like;

[0209] diabetes agents, such as ACE inhibitors (e.g., captopril), amylin, amylin agonists and antagonists (e.g., Normylin™, AC137, GC747, AC253, and

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AC625), autoimmune compounds (e.g., AI-401), capsaicins (e.g., Zostrix-HP), cell regulators (e.g., protein kinase C inhibitors, and Balanol), domperidones (e.g., Motilium®), fluvastatins (e.g., Lescol), FOX 988, fusion toxins (e.g., DAB₃₈₉ IL-2, and DAB₄₈₆ IL-2), gene therapies (e.g., Transkaryotic Therapies), glucagons (e.g., recombinant yeast glucagon), IL-10 compounds, iloprost, immunosuppressives (e.g., tacrolimus, Prograf, and FK-506), proinsulin, insulin and insulin analogs (e.g., AI-401, Nu-Insulin compounds, Humulin, Iletin, Humalog™, LYs-Pro, and Amaryl), insulin-like growth factors (e.g., Chiron/Ciba-Geigy compounds, Fujisawa compounds, and Genetech compounds), insulinotropins (e.g., Pfizer/Scios Nova compounds), nerve growth factors (e.g., Genentech compounds), oral hypoglycemics (e.g., AS-6, glimepiride, Amaryl, CL 316,243, acarbose, miglitol, recombinant yeast glucagon, GlucaGen™, NovoNorm™, glipizide, insulinotropin, and CI-991/CS-045), platelet-derived growth factors (e.g., Zymo Genetics/Novo Nordisk compounds), sulfonylureas (e.g., tolbutamide, acetohexamide, tolazamide, and chlorpropamide), T cell approaches (e.g., anergize, Anergix™, Procept compounds, and T cell Sciences compounds), and tolrestats (e.g., Alredase®, and ARI-509), activin, somatostatin, and the like;

[0210] stroke agents, such as 5-HT antagonists (e.g., Piperazine derivative), 5-HT reuptake inhibitors (e.g., Milnacipran, and Dalcipran), 5-HT 1A agonists (e.g., SR-57746A, and SR-57746), 5-HT 3 agonists (e.g., SR-57227), 5-HT 4 antagonists, 5-lipoxygenase inhibitors (e.g., low MW dual 5-lipoxygenase and PAF inhibitor CMI-392), ACh agonists (e.g., Pramiracetam, Choline-L-alfoscerate, L-alpha-glycerolphosphoryl-choline, and Delecit), adenosine agonists (e.g., GP-1-4683, ARA-100, and arasine analogs), adenosine A1 receptor agonists (e.g., Azaisotere, 2-chloro-N-[4 (phenylthio)-1-piperidiny] adenosine, and 2120136), adenosine reuptake inhibitors (e.g., Diphenyloxazole derivatives), adrenergic transmitter re-uptake inhibitors (e.g., Bifemelane, E-0687, MCI-2016, Alnert, and Celeport), aldose reductase inhibitors (e.g., Spiro-3' pyrroline derivatives), alpha antagonists (e.g., Drotaverine acephyllinate, and Depogen), alpha 2 agonists (e.g., SNAP-5083, SNAP-5608, and SNAP-5682), AMPA receptor agonists (e.g., heterocyclic compound SYM-1207, and heterocyclic compound SYM-1252), AMPA receptor antagonists (e.g., LY-

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293558, and LY-215490), Ancrod/Arvin, aspirin, benzothiazoles (e.g., Lubeluzole, and R87926), benzodiazepine receptor antagonists (e.g., 3-oxadiazolyl-1,6-naphthyridine derivatives, Tetracyclic imidazodiazepines series imidazenil, FID-02-023, and Ro-23-1412), blood substitutes, bradykinin antagonists (e.g., CP-0127, Bradycor, and Septicor), C5a release inhibitors (e.g., protein derivative CMI-46000), calcium antagonists (e.g., Lemildipine, NB-818, NPK-1886, Trimetazidine derivative, Iomerizine KP-2796, Diltiazem analog clentiazem maleate, and TA-3090), calcium channel antagonists (e.g., nitrendipine-like compound doperdipine, YS-201, U-92032, Diltiazem derivative, 1058, SM-6586, KP-840, F-0401, D-31-D, Tetrahydronaphthalene derivatives, fasudil, AT-877, H-7, HA-1044, HA-1077, EriI, darodipine, dazodipine, PY-108-068, Plimo, Dihydropyridine, AE 0047, GJ-0956, Lacidipine, GR-43659, GR-43659X, GX-1048, S-312-d, S-312, S-830312, Nilvadipine, and FK-235), calpain inhibitors (e.g., AK-275, and CX-275), carnitine palmitoyl-transferase inhibitors, carvedilol, cerebral calcium antagonist vasodilators (e.g., Nimodipine, and Nimotop), cholinesterase inhibitors (e.g., indole and indazole derivatives, and Tacrine analog), complement factor inhibitors (e.g., TK9C, protein derivative TP16, compinact A, compinact C, Factor D inhibitors, and soluble, recombinant MCP-based complement inhibitors), complement inhibitors (e.g., sCRI/BRL-55730, and YM-203), coronary vasodilators (e.g., Nicorandil, RP-46417, SG-75, and Adancor), CPC-111, cytidyl diphosphocholine/citicholines, cytokines (e.g., NBI-117), Dexanabiol, dopamine agonists, EAA receptors, endothelin antagonists (e.g., SB 209670), endothelin receptor antagonists, excitatory amino acid agonists (e.g., acylated polyamine analogs, and N-(4-hydroxyphenylpropanonyl)-spermine analog), excitatory amino acid antagonists (e.g., Tryptophan, 4,6-disubstituted stroke & kynurenine derivatives, NPC-17742, CPC-701, and CPC-702), glutamate antagonists (e.g., Kainate quisqualate NNC-07-9202, NPC-17742, small molecule CNS-1237, NS-257, NS-072, BW-619C, CGS 19755, Riluzole, PK-26124, and RP 54274), glutamate receptor antagonists (e.g., Araxin compounds, Quinoxaline derivative, YM-90K, and YM-900), glycine antagonists, glycine NMDA agonists (e.g., 3-hydroxy-2,5-dioxo-1H-benz[b]azepines), glycine NMDA associated antagonists (e.g., 5,6-dihydro-1H-pyrrolo[1,2,3-de]quinoxaline-2,3-diones,

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Strychnine-insensitive glycine binding site of NMDA receptor L-687414, Glystasins, ACEA-2011, ACEA-3031, AC-1021, ACPC, and eliprodil), growth factor antagonists (e.g., non-peptide indolocarbazole neutrophic molecules, and CEP-075), GPIIb/IIIa antagonists (e.g., Peptide C68-22), hemorheological agents (e.g., Drotaverine acephyllinate, and Depogen), heparin, hydroxyl radical formation inhibitors (e.g., homopiperazine derivative K-7259), hypocalcemic agents (e.g., calcitonin peptide, related to hCGRP peptide), hypothermic agents/BMY-20862, ICAM-1 compounds (e.g., Enlimomab), immunosuppressants (e.g., small molecule compounds, and NBI-117), integrin general antagonists (e.g., monoclonal antibody AN-100225, and monoclonal antibody AN-100226), Interleukin-1 antagonists (e.g., cyclic nitrones), iron-dependent lipid peroxidation inhibitors (e.g., 2-(amino-methyl) chromans), lactic acid accumulation/inhibitors (e.g., small molecule CPC-211), Leukotriene B4 antagonists (e.g., Ebselen, DR-3305, PZ-25, PZ-51, RP 60931, and RP 61605), lipid peroxidase inhibitors (e.g., Idebenone, and Avan), low molecular weight small molecules, methyltransferase stimulants (e.g., 4-methyl benzenesulfonate, ademetonine sulfate tosilate, FO-156, and Ceritan), monoamine oxidase B inhibitors (e.g., MD-280040, MD-200243, MD-280080, Lazabemide, and Ro-19-6327), MS-153, MS-424, Na^+/H^+ Na^+/Li^+ exchange inhibitors (e.g., Pyrazine derivatives), nadroparin (e.g., Fraxiparin), nafronyl/naftidrofuryl (e.g., Praxilene), nerve growth factor agonists (e.g., small molecule compounds, CNTF, BDNF, 2.5S NGF, monosialoganglioside GM1, and Sigen/Sygen), neuronal calcium channel blockers (e.g., CPC-304, and CPC-317), neuronal differentiation compounds (e.g., F-spondin), neuropeptide agonists (e.g., Neurotrophic Peptide Trofexin), neutrophil inhibitory factors (e.g., small molecule compounds), nitric oxide agonists (e.g., hydroxy derivative N-3393, hydroxy derivative N-3398, nicorandil, and Therapicon), nitric oxide antagonists, NMDA antagonists (e.g., Spiroisindoles/dizocilpine derivatives, Oxindole compound, CP-112116, LY-104658, LY-235959, FR-115427, Sialic acid derivative, N-palmitoyl-Betaethylglycoside neuraminic acid, ND-37, Ro-01-6794, 706, Dextrorphan, Ifenprodil analogue eliprodil, SL-82.0715, Lipophilic molecules, HU-211, Remacemide, 934-423, 12495, 12859, 12942AA, Selfotel, CGS-19755, SDZ-EAA-494, CGP-40116, CGP-37849, CGP-39551, and CGP-43487), NMDA

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antagonist-partial agonists (e.g., Conantokin G peptide SYM-1010), NMDA channel blockers (e.g., Aptiganel, CERESTAT, and CNS 1102), NMDA receptor antagonists, NMDA receptor subtypes (e.g., Kainate quisqua-late NNC-07-9202), non-competitive NMDA antagonists (e.g., FPL-15896), non-ionic copolymer RheothRx, nootropic/acetylcholine agonists (e.g., Oxiracetam, CT-848, and Neuractiv), norepinephrine inhibitors (e.g., Midalci-pran), N-type calcium channel antagonists (e.g., NS-626, and NS-638), opioid antagonists (e.g., Nalmefene, nalmetrene, JF-1, ORF-11676, Cervene, and Incystene), opioid kappa receptor agonists (e.g., acrylacetamide enadoline, and CI-997), organoselenims (e.g., Ebselen, DR-3305, PZ-25, PZ-51, RP 60931, and RP 61605), oxygen scavengers (e.g., Tirilazad mesylate, Lazaroids, and Freedox), PA2 inhibitors (e.g., phospholipase A2 inhibitor), PAF antagonists (e.g., nupafant, and BB-2113), partial glycine NMDA agonists (e.g., ACPC), peptide/GPIIb/IIIa antagonists (e.g., Integrelin), peptidic neuron-specific calcium channel antagonists (e.g., SNX-111), phosphodiesterase inhibitors (e.g., Xanthine derivatives, propentofylline, Hoe-285, and Hextol), phospholipase A2 inhibitors (e.g., small organic molecule CEP-217), plasminogen activators (e.g., r-ProUK (recombinant pro-urokinase), platelet-activating factor antagonists (e.g., UK-74505), platelet adhesion inhibitors (e.g., Peptide), platelet aggregation antagonists (e.g., cilostazol, peptide agents, GPHb-IIIa inhibitor, and TP-9201), platelet aggregation inhibitors (e.g., Diaminoalkanoic acid derivatives), potassium channel agonists (e.g., Nicorandil, RP-46417, SG-75, and Adancor), prolyl endopeptidase (PEP) inhibitors (e.g., JTP-4819), protein kinase C inhibitors (e.g., monosialoganglioside derivative Liga-20), proteolytic enzyme inhibitors (e.g., Protease nexin-1, Incyte, PN-1, PN-2, Nafamostat, FUT-175, Duthan, and Futhan), pyrimidine derivatives, Quinolizine derivatives (e.g., KF-17329, and KF-19863), radical formation antagonists (e.g., EPC-K1), recombinant tissue plasminogen activators (e.g., alteplase, and Activase), Schwann cell derived molecules/promoters, sigma antagonists (e.g., Sigma ligand), sigma receptor antagonists (e.g., tetrahydropyridinylisoxazolines and isoxazoles PD-144418), sodium/calcium channel modulators (e.g., Lifarizine, and RS-87476), sodium channel antagonists, streptokinase (e.g., Streptase), substituted guanadine (e.g., small molecule CNS-

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1237), superoxide dismutase stimulants (e.g., PEG conjugated enzyme superoxide dismutase/Dismutec, and PEG-SOD), thrombin inhibitors, (e.g., non-peptide), thromboxane synthase inhibitors (e.g., Linotroban, and HN-11500), thyrotropin-releasing hormone agonists (e.g., TRH agonists, Protirelin analog, thymoliberin, and RX-77368), ticlopidine (e.g., Ticlid), TJ-8007, TRH agonists (e.g., Thyrotropin releasing hormones, and JTP-2942), trilazad, urokinase (e.g., Abbokinase), w-conopeptide (e.g., SNX-111), and warfarin (e.g., Coumadin), and the like;

[0211] agents useful for the treatment of carcinomas (e.g., adriamycin, taxol, interleukin-1, interleukin-2 (especially useful for treatment of renal carcinoma), and the like, as well as leuprolide acetate, LHRH analogs (such as nafarelin acetate), and the like, which are especially useful for the treatment of prostatic carcinoma),

[0212] agents useful for the treatment of endometriosis (e.g., LHRH analogs),

[0213] agents useful for the treatment of uterine contraction (e.g., oxytocin),

[0214] agents useful for the treatment of diuresis (e.g., vasopressin),

[0215] agents useful for the treatment of cystic fibrosis (e.g., Dnase (i.e., deoxyribonuclease), SLPI, and the like),

[0216] agents useful for the treatment of neutropenia (e.g., GCSF),

[0217] agents useful for the treatment of lung cancer (e.g., beta 1-interferon),

[0218] agents useful for the treatment of respiratory disorders (e.g., superoxide dismutase),

[0219] agents useful for the treatment of ischemia/reperfusion injury (e.g., selectin inhibitors, Irf1, and the like);

[0220] nitric oxide synthase inhibitors (e.g., N⁴-methyl-L-arginine, aminoguanidine, N⁴-(iminoethyl)-L-ornithine, thiocitrulline and other citrulline

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derivatives, N⁴-nitro-L-arginine, N⁴-nitro-L-arginine methyl ester, N⁴-amino-L-arginine, and other arginine derivatives, isothioureia and its derivatives, and the like,

[0221] as well as a variety of other agents, such as acyclovir, alendronate sodium, amlodipine, ampicillin, azelaic acid, azithromycin, beclomethasone, betamethasone, bicalutamide, buspirone, carisoprodol, carvedilol, cefaclor, cefadroxil, cefixime, cefprozil, ceftibuten, cefuroxime axetil, cephalixin, cetirizine hydrochloride, cimetidine, ciprofloxacin, cisapride, clarithromycin, clavulanate, clonazepam, clotrimazole, codeine, conjugated estrogens, cyclobenzaprine, desogestrel, dexrazoxane, diazepam, dicyclomine HCl, digoxin, diltiazem, dirithromycin, doxazosin, doxycycline, enalapril, erythromycin, erythromycin base, erythromycin stearate, estradiol, ethinyl estradiol, ethynodiol diacetate, etodolac, famotidine, fluconazole, fluoxetine, fluvastatin, furosemide, gemfibrozil, glipizide, glyburide, guaifenesin, hydrochlorothiazide, hydrocodone, hydrocortisone, ibuprofen, ibutilide fumarate, indapamide, insulin, ipratropium bromide, ketoconazole, ketoprofen, ketorolac tromethamine, lamivudine, lansoprazole, levonorgestrel, levothyroxine, lisinopril, loracarbef, loratidine, lorazepam, losartan potassium, lovastatin, medroxyprogesterone, methylphenidate, methylprednisolone, metoprolol, metoprolol tartrate, moexipril hydrochloride, mometasone furoate, mupirocin, mycophenolate mofetil, nabumetone, nalmefene hydrochloride, naproxen, neomycin, nifedipine, nisoldipine, nitrofurantoin, nizatidine, norethindrone, norgestrel, nortriptyline, ofloxacin, omeprazole, oxaprozin, oxycodone, paroxetine, penicillin, pentoxifylline, phenylpropanolamine, phenytoin, polymyxin, porfimer sodium, potassium chloride, pravastatin, prednisone, promethazine, propoxyphene, pseudoephedrine, quinapril, ramipril, ranitidine, riluzole, salmeterol, saquinavir mesylate, sertraline, sevoflurane, simvastatin, sucralfate, sulfamethoxazole, sumatriptan, temazepam, terazosin, terconazole, terfenadine, tetracycline, theophylline, timolol, tramadol, tramadol hydrochloride, tretinoin, triamcinolone acetonide, triamterene, trimethoprim, valproic acid, venlafaxine, verapamil, warfarin, zolpidem, and the like.

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[0222] In some embodiments, as shown in Figure 15, the biologically active molecule bonded to the dendrimer is selected from the group consisting of methotrexate, 6-mercaptopurine, 5-fluorouracil, paclitaxel, cyclosporin A, and ganciclovir.

[0223] As described, a wide variety of biologically active molecules may be included in the transport molecules of the present invention. Therefore, the transport molecules of the invention may be used to treat an extremely wide variety of medical conditions in humans, mammals, and other animals. In some embodiments, the biologically active molecule bonded to the dendrimer is a drug suitable for the treatment of a mammalian condition. Because the dendrimers of the present invention may greatly increase the bioavailability of a biologically active molecule, drug candidates with high *in vitro* activity or assay activity that have been or will be rejected due to low availability may find successful employment as useful therapeutics when they are included in a transport molecule of the invention. Pharmaceutical formulations and medicaments that include any of the transport molecules of the present invention in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier are thus provided as are methods of increasing the effectiveness of a drug. Such methods includes administering a pharmaceutical formulation or a medicament of the invention to a human or an animal such as a mammal.

[0224] The invention also provides a method of increasing transport of a biologically active compound across a biological membrane. The method includes contacting a biological membrane with any transport molecule of the present invention. The transport molecule that includes the biologically active compound is transported across the biological membrane at a rate greater than the biologically active compound is transported across the biological membrane when the biologically active compound is not bonded to the dendrimer of the transport molecule.

[0225] The invention further provides a method of administering a pharmaceutical agent to a subject. The method includes coadministering the pharmaceutical agent and any of the dendrimers of the present invention to the subject. In some such embodiments, the dendrimer is bonded to the pharmaceutical

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agent. In some such embodiments, the subject is a human, a mammal, or an animal. In other such embodiments, the subject is a cell. In yet other such embodiments, the pharmaceutical agent is selected from any drug or pharmaceutical agent described herein.

[0226] The instant invention also provides for compositions which may be prepared by mixing one or more transport molecules or dendrimers of the instant invention, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or tautomers thereof, with pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, excipients, binders, diluents or the like, to treat or ameliorate a variety of disorders such as , but not limited to cancer. One of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that the dendrimers of the invention may be bonded to an almost limitless number and type of drugs to treat any known human or animal condition which is treated with a drug. A therapeutically effective dose further refers to that amount of one or more composition of the instant invention sufficient to result in amelioration of symptoms of the disorder.

[0227] The pharmaceutical formulations and medicaments of the instant invention can be manufactured by methods well known in the art such as conventional granulating, mixing, dissolving, encapsulating, lyophilizing, emulsifying or levigating processes, among others. The composition can be in the form of a solid, a solution, an emulsion, a dispersion, a micelle, a liposome, and the like, wherein the resulting composition contains one or more of the transport molecules or dendrimers of the present invention in admixture with an organic or inorganic carrier or excipient suitable for enteral or parenteral administration.

[0228] The compositions can be in the form of, for example, granules, powders, tablets, pellets, capsules, syrup, suppositories, injections, emulsions, elixirs, suspensions, solutions or any other form suitable for use. The instant compositions can be formulated for various routes of administration, for example, by oral administration, by transmucosal administration, by rectal administration, or subcutaneous administration as well as intrathecal, intravenous, intramuscular, intraperitoneal, intranasal, intraocular or intraventricular injection. The compositions of the instant invention can also be administered in a local rather than a systemic

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fashion, such as injection as a sustained release formulation. The carriers which can be used include glucose, lactose, gum acacia, gelatin, mannitol, starch paste, magnesium trisilicate, talc, corn starch, keratin, colloidal silica, potato starch, urea, medium chain length triglycerides, dextrans, and other carriers suitable for use in manufacturing preparations, in solid, semisolid, or liquid form. In addition auxiliary, stabilizing, thickening and coloring agents and perfumes may be used. Invention transport molecules and dendrimers are included in the pharmaceutical formulations in an amount sufficient to produce the desired effect upon the pathological condition. The following dosage forms are given by way of example and should not be construed as limiting the instant invention.

[0229] For oral, buccal, and sublingual administration, powders, suspensions, granules, tablets, troches, lozenges, pills, capsules, gelcaps, and caplets are acceptable as solid dosage forms. These can be prepared, for example, by mixing one or more compounds of the instant invention, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or tautomers thereof, with at least one additive or excipient such as a starch or other additive. Suitable additives or excipients are sucrose, lactose, cellulose sugar, mannitol, maltitol, dextran, sorbitol, starch, agar, alginates, chitins, chitosans, pectins, tragacanth gum, gum arabic, gelatins, collagens, casein, albumin, synthetic or semi-synthetic polymers or glycerides, methyl cellulose, hydroxypropylmethyl-cellulose, and/or polyvinylpyrrolidone. Optionally, oral dosage forms can contain other ingredients to aid in administration, such as an inactive diluent, or lubricants such as magnesium stearate, or preservatives such as paraben or sorbic acid, or anti-oxidants such as ascorbic acid, tocopherol or cysteine, a disintegrating agent, binders, thickeners, buffers, sweeteners, flavoring agents or perfuming agents. Additionally, dyestuffs or pigments may be added for identification. Tablets containing transport molecules or dendrimers in admixture with non-toxic pharmaceutically acceptable excipients may also be manufactured by known methods. The excipients used may be, for example, (1) inert diluents such as calcium carbonate, lactose, calcium phosphate or sodium phosphate; (2) granulating and disintegrating agents such as corn starch, potato starch or alginic acid; (3) binding agents such as gum tragacanth, corn starch, gelatin or acacia, and (4) lubricating agents such as magnesium stearate,

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stearic acid or talc. The tablets may be uncoated or they may be coated by known techniques to delay disintegration and absorption in the gastrointestinal tract and thereby provide a sustained action over a longer period. For example, a time delay material such as glyceryl monostearate or glyceryl distearate may be employed.

[0230] In some cases, formulations for oral use may be in the form of hard gelatin capsules wherein the transport molecules are mixed with an inert solid diluent, for example, calcium carbonate, calcium phosphate or kaolin. They may also be in the form of soft gelatin capsules wherein the invention compounds are mixed with water or an oil medium, for example, peanut oil, liquid paraffin, or olive oil.

[0231] Liquid dosage forms for oral administration may be in the form of pharmaceutically acceptable emulsions, syrups, gel capsules, elixirs, suspensions, slurries, and solutions, which may contain an inactive diluent, such as water. Pharmaceutical formulations and medicaments may be prepared as liquid suspensions or solutions using a sterile liquid, such as, but not limited to, an oil, water, an alcohol, and combinations of these. Pharmaceutically suitable surfactants, suspending agents, emulsifying agents, may be added for oral or parenteral administration.

[0232] As noted above, suspensions may include oils. Such oils include, but are not limited to, peanut oil, sesame oil, cottonseed oil, corn oil and olive oil. Suspension preparation may also contain esters of fatty acids such as ethyl oleate, isopropyl myristate, fatty acid glycerides and acetylated fatty acid glycerides. Suspension formulations may include alcohols, such as, but not limited to, ethanol, isopropyl alcohol, hexadecyl alcohol, glycerol and propylene glycol. Ethers, such as but not limited to, poly(ethyleneglycol), petroleum hydrocarbons such as mineral oil and petrolatum; and water may also be used in suspension formulations.

[0233] Injectable dosage forms generally include aqueous suspensions or oil suspensions which may be prepared using a suitable dispersant or wetting agent and a suspending agent. Injectable forms may be in solution phase or in the form of a suspension, which is prepared with a solvent or diluent. Acceptable solvents or vehicles include sterilized water, Ringer's solution, or an isotonic aqueous saline

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solution. Suspensions suitable for injection may be formulated according to known methods using suitable dispersing or wetting agents and suspending agents. The sterile injectable preparation can also be a sterile injectable solution or suspension in a non-toxic parenterally-acceptable diluent or solvent, for example, as a solution in 1,3-butanediol. Sterile, fixed oils are conventionally employed as a solvent or suspending medium. For this purpose any bland fixed oil may be employed including synthetic mono- di-, or tri-glycerides, fatty acids (including oleic acid), naturally occurring vegetable oils like sesame oil, coconut oil, peanut oil, cottonseed oil, etc., or synthetic fatty vehicles like ethyl oleate or the like. Buffers, preservatives, antioxidants, and the like can be incorporated as required.

[0234] For injection, pharmaceutical formulations and medicaments may be a powder suitable for reconstitution with an appropriate solution as described above. Examples of these include, but are not limited to, freeze dried, rotary dried or spray dried powders, amorphous powders, granules, precipitates, or particulates. For injection, the formulations may optionally contain stabilizers, pH modifiers, surfactants, bioavailability modifiers and combinations of these. The compounds may be formulated for parenteral administration by injection such as by bolus injection or continuous infusion. A unit dosage form for injection may be in ampoules or in multi-dose containers.

[0235] For rectal administration, pharmaceutical formulations and medicaments may be in the form of a suppository, an ointment, an enema, a tablet or a cream for release of compound in the intestines, sigmoid flexure and/or rectum. Rectal suppositories are prepared by mixing one or more compounds of the instant invention, or pharmaceutically acceptable salts or tautomers of the compound, with acceptable vehicles, for example, cocoa butter or polyethylene glycol, which is present in a solid phase at normal storing temperatures, and present in a liquid phase at those temperatures suitable to release a drug inside the body, such as in the rectum. Oils may also be employed in the preparation of formulations of the soft gelatin type and suppositories. Water, saline, aqueous dextrose and related sugar solutions, and glycerols may be employed in the preparation of suspension formulations which may

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also contain suspending agents such as pectins, carbomers, methyl cellulose, hydroxypropyl cellulose or carboxymethyl cellulose, as well as buffers and preservatives.

[0236] Besides those representative dosage forms described above, pharmaceutically acceptable excipients and carries are generally known to those skilled in the art and are thus included in the instant invention. Such excipients and carriers are described, for example, in "Remingtons Pharmaceutical Sciences" Mack Pub. Co., New Jersey (1991), which is incorporated herein by reference.

[0237] The formulations of the invention may be designed to be short-acting, fast-releasing, long-acting, and sustained-releasing as described below. Thus, pharmaceutical formulations and medicaments may also be formulated for controlled release or for slow release.

[0238] The instant compositions may also comprise, for example, micelles or liposomes, or some other encapsulated form, or may be administered in an extended release form to provide a prolonged storage and/or delivery effect. Therefore, pharmaceutical formulations and medicaments may be compressed into pellets or cylinders and implanted intramuscularly or subcutaneously as depot injections or as implants such as stents. Such implants may employ known inert materials such as silicones and biodegradable polymers.

[0239] Specific dosages may be adjusted depending on conditions of disease, the age, body weight, general health conditions, sex, and diet of the subject, dose intervals, administration routes, excretion rate, and combinations of drugs. Any of the above dosage forms containing effective amounts are well within the bounds of routine experimentation and therefore, well within the scope of the instant invention.

[0240] A therapeutically effective dose may vary depending upon the route of administration and dosage form. Preferred pharmaceutical formulations, medicaments, and transport molecules of the instant invention include formulations that exhibit a high therapeutic index. The therapeutic index is the dose ratio between toxic and therapeutic effects which can be expressed as the ratio between LD₅₀ and

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ED₅₀. The LD₅₀ is the dose lethal to 50% of the population and the ED₅₀ is the dose therapeutically effective in 50% of the population. The LD₅₀ and ED₅₀ are determined by standard pharmaceutical procedures in animal cell cultures or experimental animals. Typical doses typically range from nanaograms to milligrams, or more typically from micrograms to milligrams. Concentrations of liquid pharmaceutical formulations and medicaments generally range from nM to M or more more generally range from nanomolar to micromolar.

[0241] "Treating" within the context of the instant invention, means an alleviation of symptoms associated with a disorder or disease, or halt of further progression or worsening of those symptoms, or prevention or prophylaxis of the disease or disorder. For example, within the context of treating patients in need of an anti-cancer drug, successful treatment may include a reduction in the size of the tumor mass, a reduction in the rate of growth of the tumor, an alleviation of symptoms related to a cancerous growth or tumor, or a halting in the progression of a disease such as cancer or in the growth of cancerous cells. Treatment may also include administering the pharmaceutical formulations, medicaments, transport molecules, and/or dendrimers of the present invention in combination with other therapies. For example, the transport molecules, medicaments, and pharmaceutical formulations of the present invention may be administered before, during, or after surgical procedure and/or radiation therapy. The transport molecules and pharmaceutical formulations of the present invention may also be administered in conjunction with other pharmaceutical agents or biologically active molecules including those used in antisense and gene therapy.

[0242] The bioavailability of a drug or pharmaceutical agent may be increased using the dendrimers of the present invention. Methods for increasing the bioavailability of a drug include bonding the drug to any of the dendrimers of the present invention. In some such methods, the dendrimer is bonded to the dendrimer through reaction with a peptide linking group on the dendrimer whereas in other such methods, the drug is bonded to the dendrimer through reaction with a non-peptide linking group on the dendrimer.

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[0243] The dendrimers of the invention may be synthesized utilizing a variety of methods. One such method includes:

[0244] (a) reacting a bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane or a tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane with a reactant selected from the group consisting of acrylonitrile, acrylic esters, α haloesters, or cyclic anhydrides, such as succinic anhydride, and then esterifying to produce a diester comprising two ester groups and an amine group or a triester comprising three ester groups and an amine group;

[0245] (b) protecting the amine group of the diester or the triester to produce a protected diester comprising two ester groups and a protected amine group or a protected triester comprising three ester groups and a protected amine group;

[0246] (c) saponifying the two ester groups of the protected diester or the three ester groups of the protected triester to produce a dicarboxylic acid comprising two carboxylic acid groups and the protected amine group or a tricarboxylic acid comprising three tricarboxylic acid groups and the protected amine group;

[0247] (d) reacting

[0248] (i) each of the carboxylic acid groups of the dicarboxylic acid or the tricarboxylic acid with a diaminoalkane, a diaminoalkene, a diaminocycloalkane, or a diaminocycloalkene to produce a product that comprises two or three amide-containing branches, wherein each of the amide-containing branches produced by the reaction of the carboxylic acid groups with the diaminoalkane, the diaminoalkene, the diaminocycloalkane, or the diaminocycloalkene comprises a protected amino group, wherein one of the amino groups of the diaminoalkane, the diaminoalkene, the diaminocycloalkane, or the diaminocycloalkene is protected; or

[0249] (ii) each of the carboxylic acid groups of the dicarboxylic acid or the tricarboxylic acid with a hydroxyaminoalkane, a hydroxyaminoalkene, a hydroxyaminocycloalkane, or a hydroxyaminocycloalkene to produce a product that comprises two or three ester-containing branches, wherein each of the ester-containing branches produced by the reaction of the carboxylic acid groups with the

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hydroxyaminoalkane, the hydroxyaminoalkene, the hydroxyaminocycloalkane, or the hydroxyaminocycloalkene comprises a protected amino group, wherein the amino group of the hydroxyaminoalkane, the hydroxyaminoalkene, the hydroxyaminocycloalkane, or the hydroxyaminocycloalkene is protected;

[0250] (e) selectively deprotecting the protected amino groups at the end of the amide-containing or ester-containing branches introduced in (d) to produce a product with deprotected amine groups; and

[0251] (f) guanidinyllating, amidinyllating, ureidolating or thioureidolating the product with deprotected amine groups produced after selectively deprotecting in (e) to produce the dendrimer.

[0252] By way of non-limiting example, Figure 1 shows a method for synthesizing a compound according to the present invention. As shown in Figure 1, the reaction of a tris(hydroxyalkyl)alkane with a Michael addition agent such as, but not limited to, acrylonitrile, followed by esterification, produces compound 1, a triester having three ester groups and an amine group. The amine group of compound 1 is protected with a Cbz protecting group. Subsequent saponification of the three ester groups of the Cbz-protected amine compound may be used to prepare tricarboxylic acid compound 2 which include three carboxylic acid groups and a protected amine. Reaction of the three carboxylic acid groups of the Cbz-protected amine compound 2 with a diaminoalkane such as, but not limited to, mono-Boc protected 1,2-diaminoethane followed by selective deprotection by removal of the Boc groups and then guanidylation with (Boc)₂TfGuan (*N,N'*-di(*t*-butoxycarbonyl)-*N''*-triflylguanidine) affords dendrimer 3. Notably, one of skill in the art will immediately recognize that Cbz-protected amine compound 2 may also be reacted with a hydroxyaminoalkane in which the amino group is protected such as, but not limited to, 2-(*t*-butoxycarbonylamino)-1-ethanol, 3-(*t*-butoxycarbonylamino)-1-propanol, or 4-(*t*-butoxycarbonylamino)-1-butanol to produce a product having three ester-containing branches. The product with ester-containing branches may then be selectively deprotected and guanidinyllated to produce an ester-containing analog of dendrimer 3.

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[0253] In some methods for synthesizing a dendrimer, (a) includes reacting the tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane with acrylonitrile. In some such methods the tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane is a tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminomethane such as tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane. In other methods for synthesizing a dendrimer, (a) includes reacting the bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane with acrylonitrile. In some such methods, the bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane is a bis(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane such as bis(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane.

[0254] In still other methods for synthesizing a dendrimer, the amine group of the diester or the triester is protected in (b) with a benzyloxycarbonyl (Cbz) group.

[0255] In yet other methods for synthesizing a dendrimer, (d) further includes reacting each of the two carboxylic acid groups of the dicarboxylic acid or each of the three carboxylic acid groups of the tricarboxylic acid with a mono-protected 1,2-diaminoethane. In some such methods, the mono-protected 1,2-diaminoethane is protected with a *t*-butoxycarbonyl group.

[0256] In yet other methods for synthesizing a dendrimer, (f) further includes guanidinylation of the product produced after selectively deprotecting in (e) using *N,N'*-di(*t*-butoxycarbonyl)-*N''*-triflylguanidine. Other guanidinylation agents include, but are not limited to, cyanamide, *N,N'*-dialkylcarbodiimide, *N,N'*-bis(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-thiourea, *N,N'*-bis(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-*S*-methyl-isothioureia, *S*-methyl-isothioureia, 1H-benzotriazole-1-carboxamine, *N,N'*-bis(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-1H-benzotriazole-1-carboxamine, *N,N'*-bis(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-5-chloro-1H-benzotriazole-1-carboxamidine, *N,N'*-bis(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-6-nitro-1H-benzotriazole-1-carboxamidine, 1H-pyrazole-1-carboxamidine, *N,N'*-bis(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-1H-pyrazole-1-carboxamidine, *N,N'*-bis(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-4-nitro-1H-pyrazole-1-carboxamidine, *N,N'*-bis(*tert*-butoxycarbonyl)-*N''*-trifluoromethylsulfonyl guanidine, and *N,N'*-bis(benzyloxycarbonyl)-*N''*-trifluoromethylsulfonyl guanidine.

[0257] In yet other methods for synthesizing a dendrimer, the method further includes (g) deprotecting the amine group that was protected in (b). In some such

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embodiments, the method further includes (h) coupling the product of (g) with a compound comprising a carboxylic acid and a protected amine group to produce a dendrimer with a protected amine group. By way of nonlimiting example, as shown in Figure 1, the Cbz group of dendrimer 3 may be removed using catalytic hydrogenation and the resulting product may then be coupled with Cbz- β -alanine using standard coupling reagents such as, but not limited to, 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylamino-propylcarbodiimide (EDC)/1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) chemistry to afford Cbz-protected dendrimer 4. In some such methods, the compound comprising a carboxylic acid and a protected amine group of (h) is a benzyloxycarbonyl protected β -alanine. In other such methods, the method for synthesizing the dendrimer further includes (i) removing the protecting group from the protected amine group introduced in step (h). In some such embodiments, removing the protecting group in (i) includes hydrogenating the dendrimer with the protected amine group produced in step (h). For example, the Cbz protecting group of dendrimer 4 may be removed using catalytic hydrogenation to produce a dendrimer 5 that includes a free amine group.

[0258] Transport molecules and dendrimers with detection molecules of the invention may also be synthesized using a variety of methods. One such method includes:

[0259] (j) following (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i) for the method for synthesizing a dendrimer;

[0260] (k) optionally reacting the dendrimer with one or more linking molecule to produce a dendrimer comprising a linking group;

[0261] (l) reacting a first reactive group of a biologically active molecule or a first reactive group of a detection molecule with the dendrimer of (j) or the linking group of the dendrimer of (k) to produce a transport molecule comprising at least two protected guanidine groups, amidine groups, ureido groups, or thioureido groups or a dendrimer comprising a detection molecule and at least two protected guanidine groups, amidine groups, ureido groups, or thioureido groups; and

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[0262] (m) removing the protecting groups from the protected guanidine groups, amidine groups, ureido groups, or thioureido groups.

[0263] By way of nonlimiting example, a method for synthesizing a dendrimer that includes a detection molecule is shown in **Figure 6**. As shown in **Figure 6**, dendrimer 5 may be reacted with an isothiocyanate group on a detection molecule such as fluorescein to produce a dendrimer (17) with three Boc-protected guanidine groups. Removal of the Boc protecting groups affords dendrimer 10.

[0264] Another method for synthesizing a dendrimer of the present invention includes guanidinylation, amidinylation, ureidolation, or thioureidolation at least two branches of a core molecule that includes at least two branches and two free amine groups to produce a dendrimer with at least two guanidine groups, at least two amidine groups, at least two ureido groups, or at least two ureido groups wherein each of the at least two branches of the core molecule comprises at least one of the at least two free amine groups prior to being guanidinylation, amidinylation, ureidolation, or thioureidolation. By way of nonlimiting example, **Figure 1** shows that a core molecule (such as the triamine produced by reaction of mono-Boc protected 1,2-diaminoethane with tricarboxylic acid 2 followed by removal of the Boc groups) may be guanidinylation with a guanidinylation agent such as, but not limited to, *N,N'*-di(*t*-butoxycarbonyl)-*N''*-triflylguanidine, to produce a dendrimer (3) that includes three branches and three guanidine groups. In some such methods, the core molecule further includes at least one protected amine group prior to being guanidinylation, amidinylation, ureidolation, or thioureidolation. In other methods, the core molecule includes at least three branches and at least three free amine groups, wherein each of the at least three branches of the core molecule includes at least one of the at least three free amine groups prior to being guanidinylation, amidinylation, ureidolation, or thioureidolation, and each of the at least three branches is guanidinylation during guanidinylation, is amidinylation during amidinylation, is ureidolation during ureidolation, or is thioureidolation during thioureidolation. In yet other such methods, each of the at least two or the at least three branches of the core molecule has the same structure. In still other methods, each of the at least two or the at least three

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branches of the core molecule is in an identical chemical environment. In yet other methods of synthesizing a dendrimer, the core molecule is guanidinylated to produce the dendrimer, wherein the dendrimer includes protected guanidine groups. In other methods, one of the at least two free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of one of the at least two branches of the core molecule and a second of the at least two free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of a second of the at least two branches of the core molecule. In some such methods, each of the at least two branches of the core molecule includes an amide bond and the amide is formed by reacting a carboxylic acid group on a precursor of the core molecule with a compound that includes a free amine group and a protected amine group. In other methods of synthesizing a dendrimer, one of the at least three free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of one of the at least three branches of the core molecule, a second of the at least three free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of a second of the at least three branches of the core molecule, and a third of the at least three free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of a third of the at least three branches of the core molecule. In some such methods, each of the at least three branches of the core molecule includes an amide bond and the amide is formed by reacting a carboxylic acid group on a precursor of the core molecule with a compound that includes a free amine group and a protected amine group. In some methods for synthesizing a dendrimer, the core molecule includes a group of formula I, a group of formula III, or a group of formula IV.

[0265] The invention further provides a transport molecule produced by any of the methods for synthesizing a transport molecule and a dendrimer molecule produced by any of the methods for synthesizing a dendrimer.

[0266] The invention further provides kits that include at least two of any of the dendrimers of the present invention or at least one dendrimer of the present invention and a linking molecule. In some embodiments, the kit includes at least two dendrimers and at least one linking molecule for linking the dendrimer to a biologically active molecule or a detection molecule. In still other embodiments, the

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kit includes instructions for attaching a biologically active molecule to the dendrimer using the linking molecule.

[0267] The invention further provides a library that includes a plurality of dendrimers or a library that includes a plurality of transport molecules. In some embodiments, the library includes a plurality of both dendrimers and transport molecules. The libraries of the invention can be employed for determining the best dendrimers for use with a specific biologically active molecule. More generally, the libraries may be used to screen a large number of dendrimers and transport molecules to determine which exhibit desirable properties.

[0268] A method of preparing pharmaceutical formulations includes mixing any of the above-described transport molecules and/or dendrimers with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and water or an aqueous solution.

[0269] The present invention, thus generally described, will be understood more readily by reference to the following examples, which are provided by way of illustration and are not intended to limit the present invention.

EXAMPLES

INTRODUCTION

[0270] New non-peptidic, scaffold-based structures that include multiple guanidine groups have been synthesized and characterized. The synthesis and characterization of dendrimers with and without fluorescent tag detection molecules was accomplished. The fluorescent detection molecules were useful in evaluating cellular uptake of the dendrimers. The syntheses of target dendrimeric molecules was accomplished using a convergent coupling of a core molecule and guanidine-containing structures with and without a fluorescent tag. This approach allows for the preparation of a wide array of molecule transporters and the development of a library of compounds for clinical investigations. A guanidine-containing key template dendrimer (5) was readily synthesized according to the reaction scheme shown in Figure 1. A tris(hydroxyalkyl)amino-methane such as tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane was converted to the corresponding tri-nitrile

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compound by Michel-type addition to acrylonitrile. The three nitrile groups were transformed to ethyl esters under anhydrous acidic conditions to produce amino tri-ester (1) with three ester groups in identical chemical environments. The amino group of compound 1 was then protected with a benzyloxycarbonyl (Cbz) group. Basic hydrolysis of the resulting Cbz-protected amine provided the tri-acid (2). Coupling of tri-acid (2) with a mono-Boc-protected diaminoalkane or diaminocycloalkane (Boc = *t*-butoxycarbonyl) such as, mono-Boc-protected 1,2-diaminoethane, 1,3-diaminopropane, 1,4-diaminobutane, 1,5-diaminopentane, 1,6-diaminohexane, *cis* and *trans* 1,2-diaminocyclohexane, *cis* and *trans* 1,4-diaminocyclohexane, and others or a mono-Boc protected diaminoalkene or diaminocycloalkene such as mono-Boc protected 1,6-diamino-3-hexene, 1,2-*cis* diaminocyclohex-4-ene, and others, followed by removal of the Boc protecting group with HCl in dioxane and guanidylation with *N,N'*-diBoc-*N''*-triflylguanidine (see Feichtinger, L. et al. *J. Org. Chem.*, 63, p. 8432 (1998)) yielded the Cbz-protected dendrimer (3) that includes three Boc-protected guanidine groups in identical chemical environments. Removal of the Cbz group by hydrogenation over Pd-C in ethanol followed by reaction with N-Cbz- β -alanine using standard 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylamino-propylcarbodiimide (EDC)/1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) chemistry afforded the Cbz-protected chain-extended dendrimer (4) with three Boc-protected guanidine groups in identical chemical environments. Removal of the Cbz protecting group by hydrogenation over Pd-C in ethanol afforded the template dendrimer (5). The coupling of various core structures such as compounds 6, 7, 8, and 9 shown in Figure 2 with template dendrimer (5) was straightforward and involved amide bond formation using appropriate activation reagents such as, but not limited to, HOBt, EDC, and thionyl chloride. Fluorescent detection molecules were readily attached to the dendrimers after removal of the Cbz protecting groups by reaction with fluorescein isothiocyanate (FLITC). Subsequent deprotection of the Boc groups provided dendrimeric molecule containing various numbers of guanidine groups and a fluorescein label for use in analyzing cellular uptake.

[0271] The synthesis of a Boc-protected dendrimer (44) with a maleimide group is shown in Figure 13. The reactive maleimide functional group serves as a

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site for linking a biologically active molecule to the dendrimer. The Cbz-protected tricarboxylic acid (2) was converted to a dendrimer with nine Boc-protected guanidine groups (42) in identical chemical environments by reaction with the template dendrimer (5) in 93% yield by the typical coupling reaction using EDC and HOBt. Subsequent hydrogenation with Pd-C afforded the free amine Boc-protected dendrimer (43). Treatment of the Cbz-deprotected dendrimer (43) with N-succinimidyl 3-maleimidopropionate in DMF afforded the desired dendrimeric maleimido guanidine with nine Boc-protected guanidine groups (44) in high yield. Various other linkers may be used to bond biologically active molecules to the dendrimers of the present invention. Examples of just some of the linkers and biologically active molecules are shown in Figure 15. An array of linkers may be used to link biologically active cargo molecules to the dendrimers of the present invention. After transport into the cell of a mammal, human, or plant, the cargo molecules are released by enzymatic cleavage such as by proteases, esterases, or phosphatases, by pH-specific hydrolysis, or by reduction within the cell. Although the dendrimers of the invention do not include peptide bonds, linkers containing peptides may be used to secure biologically active molecules to the dendrimers of the present invention as shown in 5 where a biologically active molecule, 5-mercaptapurine, is secured to a dendrimer with six guanidine groups in identical chemical environments through a linker that includes a peptide formed from cysteine and two alanines. Formation of a disulfide bond between the sulfhydryl group (-SH) of the cysteine residue and the sulfhydryl group of the 5-mercaptapurine affords the desired molecule transporter (16).

[0272] The starting materials for the syntheses described below may be obtained from Aldrich Chemical, Milwaukee, WI, Bachem California, Inc., Torrance, CA, Calbiochem-Novabiochem Corp., San Diego, CA, and Acros Organics/Fisher Scientific, Pittsburgh, PA. The solvents required for the reactions can be obtained from VWR Scientific, Pittsburgh, PA.

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SYNTHESIS AND CHARACTERIZATION OF DENDRIMERS

EXAMPLE 1

Synthesis and Characterization of a Template Dendrimer (5) with Three Protected Guanidine Groups

[0273] The synthesis of dendrimer (5) with three Boc-protected guanidine groups is illustrated in Figure 1 and is set forth in greater detail below.

Step 1: Synthesis of 3-[2-Amino-3-(2-cyanoethoxy)-2-(2-cyanoethoxymethyl)-propoxy]propionitrile

[0274] To a suspension of tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane (5.0 g, 41.25 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (10 mL) was added aqueous 40% KOH (0.63 mL, 4.13 mmol), and the mixture was stirred for 10 minutes. The reaction solution was cooled to 0°C, and acrylonitrile (9.0 mL, 136.2 mmol) was added using a syringe. The reaction was then warmed to room temperature, stirred overnight, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (120 mL) and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ (2 x 70 mL) and (H₂O (2 x 70 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by a flash column chromatography (on silica gel, MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ = 1:10) to afford 11.08 g (96%) of the desired tri-nitrile as a slightly yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 3.68 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H, CH₂O), 3.44 (s, 6H, CH₂O), 2.60 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H, CH₂CN).

Step 2: Synthesis of 3-[2-Amino-3-(2-ethoxycarbonylethoxy)-2-(2-ethoxycarbonylethoxymethyl)-propoxy]-propionic acid ethyl ester (1)

[0275] The tri-nitrile prepared above (10.0 g, 35.67 mmol) was dissolved in EtOH (50 mL). The solution was saturated with anhydrous HCl gas until it became opaque (about 40 minutes), then refluxed for 6 hours. After the reaction was complete, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (200 mL) and washed with saturated aqueous Na₂CO₃ (2 x 150 mL) and (H₂O (2 x 200 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, and the

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solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by a flash column chromatography (on silica gel, MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ = 1:10) to afford 11.18 g (74%) of a tri-ester (1) as a slightly yellow liquid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 4.13 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H, CH₂O), 3.68 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H, CH₂O), 3.32 (s, 6H, CH₂O), 2.53 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H, CH₂CO), 1.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 9H, CH₃).

Step 3: Synthesis of 3-[2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(2-ethoxycarbonylethoxy)-2-(2-ethoxycarbonyl-ethoxymethyl)propoxy]propionic acid ethyl ester

[0276] To a solution of the tri-ester (1) (11.0 g, 26.09 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (110 mL) was added aqueous K₂CO₃ (3.97 g, 28.72 mmol in 11.0 mL of H₂O). Benzyl chloroformate (6.0 g, 35.16 mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C, and the reaction was warmed to room temperature stirred for 3 hours. The resulting mixture was cooled in an ice bath, acidified to a pH of about 3 to avoid the hydrolysis of the ester, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with EtOAc (200 mL) and washed with 1N NaHCO₃ (150 mL) and H₂O (2 x 200 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, EtOAc:n-hexanes = 1:3) to afford 11.88 g (82%) of the Cbz-protected tri-ester of (1) as a colorless syrup. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.33 (m, 5H, ArH), 5.26 (s, 1H, NH), 5.03 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 4.12 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H, CH₂O), 3.67 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H, CH₂O), 3.65 (s, 6H, CH₂O), 2.52 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H, CH₂CO), 1.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 9H, CH₃).

Step 4: General Procedure A: Basic Hydrolysis of Esters

Synthesis of 3-[2-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-3-(2-carboxyethoxy)-2-(2-carboxyethoxymethyl)propoxy]-propionic acid (2)

[0277] A solution of the tri-ester prepared above in Step 3 (20.00 g, 36.00 mmol) in MeOH (200 mL) was treated with aqueous NaOH solution (17.28 g, 432.0 mmol in 200 mL of H₂O) for 4 hours at room temperature. The mixture was then concentrated to total volume of 150 mL. The resulting mixture was poured into H₂O

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(200 mL), and washed with Et₂O (250 mL). The aqueous phase was acidified with 2N HCl to a pH of about 3 and extracted with EtOAc (2 x 300 mL). The combined organic phase was washed with a brine (300 mL) and H₂O (2 x 300 mL), and dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After evaporation, the desired tri-carboxylic acid (2) was obtained in 98% yield (16.65 g) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 9.62 (br, s, 3H, COOH), 7.33 (m, 5H, ArH), 5.26 (s, 1H, NH), 5.03 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 3.65 (s, 6H, CH₂O), 3.64 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 6H, CH₂O), 2.55 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, CH₂CO).

Step 5: General procedure B: Amide Bond Formation Using HOBt-EDC

Synthesis of {2-[2-(2-*tert*-Butoxycarbonylaminoethylcarbamoyl)-ethoxy]-1,1-bis-[2-(2-*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino-ethylcarbamoyl)-ethoxymethyl]-ethyl}-carbamic acid benzyl ester

[0278] Tri-carboxylic acid compound (2) may be used as a precursor core molecule to produce a core molecule ready for guanidinylation (See Step 6). To a solution of the tri-carboxylic acid (2) (15.88 g, 0.034 mol) and *t*-butoxycarbonylaminoethylamine (19.39 g, 0.121 mol) in CH₂Cl₂ (300 mL) was added 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (16.37 g, 0.121 mol) and then 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-carbodiimide(EDC) (23.22 g, 0.121 mol) at ice-bath temperature. The mixture was stirred overnight and poured into 300 mL of H₂O. The resulting mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 300 mL), washed with 1N HCl (2 x 300 mL) saturated NaHCO₃ (2 x 300 mL), and H₂O (2 x 300 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄ and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification of the resulting residue by a flash column chromatography (on silica gel, MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ = 1:10) afforded 25.98 g (86%) of the desired product as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.36 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.91 (br s, 3H, NH), 5.56 (s, 1H, NH), 5.34 (br s, 3H, NH), 5.03 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 3.68 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H, CH₂O), 3.64 (s, 6H, CH₂O), 3.32 (m, 6H, CH₂NH), 3.23 (m, 6H, CH₂NHCO), 2.42 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 6H, CH₂CO), 1.42 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu); ESI-MS *m/z* 933[M+Cl]⁻, 921[M+Na]⁺, 899 [M+H]⁺, 619.6[M-H]⁻.

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Step 6: General procedure C: Deprotection of Boc and Guanidylation using N,N'-diBoc-N''-triflylguanidine]

Synthesis of [2-(2-{2-[(Bis-*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino)methyl]-amino]-ethylcarbamoyl}-ethoxy)-1,1-bis-(2-{2-[(bis-*tert*-butoxycarbonylamino-methyl)-amino]-ethylcarbamoyl}-ethoxymethyl)-ethyl]-carbamic acid benzyl ester (3)

[0279] To a solution of the Boc-protected compound prepared above in Step 5 (13.45 g, 14.97 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (75 mL) was added 4N HCl in dioxane (75 mL) by syringe under a nitrogen atmosphere at ice bath temperature. The resulting mixture was then vigorously stirred for 1 hour. The resulting mixture was then concentrated on the rotary evaporator and dried *in vacuo* to afford a white solid. The solid was dissolved in 30 mL of H₂O and insoluble precipitate was filtered off. The filtrate was lyophilized to provide a colorless foam-shaped solid as the deprotected HCl salt. The resulting HCl salt was dissolved in MeOH (30 mL) and diluted with CHCl₃ (300 mL). To the resulting clear solution was added Et₃N (17.45 mL, 125.2 mmol). Next, N,N'-diBoc-N''-triflylguanidine (24.47 g, 62.57 mmol) was added at 0°C. The mixture was stirred overnight, poured into 500 mL of H₂O, and extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (3 x 500 mL). The organic phase was washed with 1N HCl (2 x 500 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (500 mL) and H₂O (2 x 500 mL), and then dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄. After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the resulting crude produce was purified by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ = 1:10). The desired Boc-protected tri-guanidine (3) was obtained in 86% yield (16.97 g) as a foam-shaped solid, m.p. 86~88°C. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 11.40 (s, 3H, NH), 8.56 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 3H, NH), 7.76 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 3H, NH), 7.31 (m, 5H, ArH), 5.44 (s, 1H, NH), 4.99 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 3.66 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, 6H, CH₂O), 3.60 (s, 6H, CH₂O), 3.50 (dt, J = 5.6, 11.2 Hz, 6H, CH₂NHCO), 3.37 (dt, J = 5.6, 11.2 Hz, CH₂NH), 2.40 (t, J = 5.6 Hz, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu); ESI-MS m/z 1359[M+Cl]⁻, 1347[M+Na]⁺, 1325[M+H]⁺, 1323[M-H]⁻.

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Step 7: General procedure D: Deprotection of Cbz Group by Catalytic Hydrogenation on Pd-C

[0280] A suspension of the Cbz-protected compound (3) prepared in Step 6 (9.12 g, 6.88 mmol) and 10% Pd-C (1.0 g) in EtOH (250 mL) was stirred overnight under a hydrogen atmosphere (using a balloon). After the reactant disappeared on TLC (thin layer chromatography), the mixture was filtered through a Celite pad. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure affording an amino-trisguanidine (7.74 g, 94%) as a foam-shaped solid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 11.39 (s, 3H, NH), 8.58 (t, $J = 5.4$ Hz, 3H, NH), 8.04 (s, 3H, NH), 3.70 (t, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 6H, CH_2O), 3.53 (dt, $J = 5.6, 11.2$ Hz, 6H, CH_2O), 3.40 (m, 12H, CH_2NH and CH_2NHCO), 2.45 (t, $J = 5.8$ Hz, 6H, CH_2CO), 1.47 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu), 1.45 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu); ESI-MS m/z 1225 $[\text{M}+\text{Cl}]^-$, 1191 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 1189 $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$.

Step 8: Synthesis of Compound 4

[0281] To a solution of the amino-tris-guanidine prepared as above in Step 7 (6.20 g, 5.18 mmol) and Cbz- β -alanine (1.38 g, 6.21 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (200 mL), was added 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (0.84 g, 6.21 mmol), and then 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-carbodiimide(EDC) (1.19 g, 6.21 mmol) at ice-bath temperature. The mixture was stirred overnight and poured into 200 mL of H_2O . The resulting mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 200 mL), washed with 1N HCl (2 x 300 mL), saturated NaHCO_3 (2 x 300 mL) and H_2O (2 x 300 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification of the resulting residue by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 = 1:10$) afforded 6.72 g (93%) of the desired product (4) as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 11.40 (s, 3H, NH), 8.62 (s, 3H, NH), 7.75 (s, 3H, NH), 7.34 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.70 (s, 1H, NH), 5.89 (s, 1H, NH), 5.07 (s, 2H, OCH_2Ar), 3.66 (m, 12H, CH_2O), 3.52 (m, 6H, CH_2NHCO), 3.45 (m, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 3.38 (m, 6H, CH_2NH), 2.44 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H, CH_2CO), 2.40 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 6H, CH_2CO), 1.48 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu), 1.47 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu); ESI-MS m/z 1417 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$, 1395 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

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Step 9: Synthesis of Dendrimer 5

[0282] A suspension of the Cbz-protected compound (4) prepared in Step 8 above (2.40 g, 1.72 mmol) and 10% Pd-C (0.2 g) in EtOH (100 mL) was stirred overnight under a hydrogen atmosphere (using a balloon). After the reactant disappeared on TLC (thin layer chromatography), the mixture was filtered through a Celite pad. The filtrate was concentrated under reduced pressure to afford a β -alanine-tris guanidine compound (5) (2.13 g, 98%) as a colorless solid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 11.42 (s, 3H, NH), 8.60 (s, 3H, NH), 7.82 (s, 3H, NH), 7.02 (s, 1H, NH), 3.68 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 6H, CH_2O), 3.66 (s, 6H, CH_2O), 3.54 (dt, $J = 5.6, 10.8$ Hz, 6H, CH_2NHCO), 3.40 (dt, $J = 5.6, 10.8$ Hz, 6H, CH_2NHCO), 2.95 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 6H, CH_2NH_2), 2.41 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 6H, CH_2CO), 2.33 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H, CH_2CO), 1.48 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu); ESI-MS m/z 1296 $[\text{M}+\text{Cl}]^-$, 1284 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$, 1262 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$, 1260 $[\text{M}-\text{H}]^-$.

EXAMPLE 2

Synthesis and Characterization of a Fluorescein-Labeled Dendrimer (10)

[0283] The synthesis of fluorescein-labeled dendrimer (10) from dendrimer (5) is illustrated in Figure 6 and is set forth in greater detail below.

Step 1: General Procedure E: Coupling Reaction with Fluorescein Isothiocyanate (FLITC)

Synthesis of Compound 17

[0284] The starting amine (5) (0.15 g, 0.12 mmol) and fluorescein isothiocyanate (FLITC) (0.056 g, 0.14 mmol) were dissolved in a mixture of DMF and CH_2Cl_2 (6 mL, 1:5 ratio) at room temperature. The reaction was cooled to 0°C , and then an excess amount of Et_3N (66 μL , 0.48 mmol) was added dropwise. An orange colored precipitate was immediately formed and remained during the entire period of the reaction. After completion of the reaction, the insoluble precipitate was filtered off, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (15 mL), washed with 1N HCl (2 x 15 mL) and H_2O (2 x 15 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 and evaporated under reduced

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pressure to afford 0.18 g (92%) of fluorescein-labeled guanidine (17) as an orange colored foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.20 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.86 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.22 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.64 (m, 3M, ArH), 6.56 (m, 2H, ArH), 3.86 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCS), 3.66 (m, 12H, CH₂O), 3.46 (m, 6H, CH₂NHCO), 3.38 (m, 6H, CH₂NH), 2.58 (m, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.42 (m, 6H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 27H, *t*-Bu).

Step 2: General Procedure F: Deprotection of Boc-Protected Guanidine Groups in Fluorescein-Labeled Transport Molecules

Synthesis of Compound 10

[0285] To a solution of Boc-protected compound prepared in Step 1 above (17) (0.15 g, 0.098 mmol) in dioxane (5 mL) was added 4N HCl in dioxane (5 mL) by syringe under a nitrogen atmosphere at ice bath temperature. Insoluble bright yellow precipitates were immediately formed. The reaction was warmed to room temperature and vigorously stirred for 2 hours. The insoluble precipitate was carefully collected by filtration under a nitrogen gas flow and dried *in vacuo* to afford a yellow solid. The solid was dissolved in 5 mL of H₂O and insoluble precipitate was filtered off. The filtrate was lyophilized to provide 0.10 g (96%) of deprotected HCl salt (10) as a bright yellow foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (D₂O): δ 7.98 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.60 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.18 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.82 (m, 4H, ArH), 3.82 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCS), 3.54 (m, 12H, CH₂O), 3.38-3.18 (m, 12H, CH₂NHCO and CH₂NH), 2.34 (m, 8H, CH₂CO); MALDI-FTMS *m/z*: 1049.4394 calculated for C₄₆H₆₃N₁₅O₁₂S (free guanidine)+Na⁺, found 1072.4406; ESI-MS *m/z* 1051 [free guanidine M⁺+1], 1049 [free guanidine M⁺-1].

EXAMPLE 3

Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer (14) with Six Protected Guanidine Groups

[0286] The synthesis of dendrimer (14) with six Boc-protected guanidine groups is illustrated in Figure 7 and is set forth in greater detail below.

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Step 1: Synthesis of [2-(3-Benzoyloxycarbonylamino)propionylamino]-ethyl]-carbamic acid *tert*-butyl ester (18)

[0287] To a solution of mono-Boc protected ethylene diamine (2.0 g, 12.5 mmol) and Cbz- β -alanine (3.35 g, 14.99 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (40 mL) was added HOBt (2.03 g, 14.99 mmol) and EDC (2.87 g, 14.99 mmol) at ice bath temperature. The mixture was stirred for 4 hours at room temperature and poured into ice water (50 mL). The resulting mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (2 x 80 mL). The organic phase was washed with 1N HCl (2 x 80 mL), saturated NaHCO_3 (2 x 80 mL), brine (2 x 80 mL) and H_2O (2 x 80 mL), and evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was recrystallized from methanol to afford the desired product (18) (4.12 g, 90%) as a white solid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 7.32 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.26 (s, 1H, NH), 5.52 (s, 1H, NH), 5.32 (s, 1H, NH), 5.06 (s, 2H, OCH_2Ar), 3.45 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 3.32 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 3.23 (t, $J = 5.6$ Hz, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 2.28 (t, $J = 6.0$ Hz, 2H, CH_2CO), 1.42 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu).

Step 2: Synthesis of [2-(2-Amino-ethylcarbamoyl)-ethyl]-carbamic acid benzyl ester trifluoroacetic acid salt (19); 5-[2-(3-Benzoyloxycarbonylamino-propionylamino)-ethylcarbamoyl]-isophthalic acid diethyl ester (20); and 5-[2-(3-Benzoyloxycarbonylamino-propionylamino)-ethylcarbamoyl]-isophthalic acid (6)

[0288] Boc-protected compound (18) prepared as described in Step 1 above (3.0 g, 8.21 mmol) was treated with 30% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) in CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL) for 30 minutes at room temperature. The resulting mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with dry toluene (5 mL), and then the mixture was evaporated under reduced pressure to afford a crude product (19). Without further purification, the crude compound (19) was used for the subsequent coupling reaction with 3,5-diethoxycarbonylbenzoic acid (2.18 g, 8.21 mmol) using HOBt (1.33 g, 9.85 mmol) and EDC (1.89 g, 9.85 mmol) in CH_2Cl_2 (60 mL). The reaction was conducted under the same condition as described in General Procedure B. After normal workup and removal of the solvent, the resulting residue was recrystallized from methanol to afford the desired diester (20). The subsequent basic hydrolysis of the compound (20) was performed in a mixture of NaOH solution (1.31

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g in 20 mL of H₂O) and methanol (20 mL) at room temperature for 6 hours. The resulting mixture was poured into ice water (40 mL) and washed with Et₂O (40 mL). The aqueous phase was acidified with 2N HCl until a pH of about 3 was reached. The resulting insoluble precipitate was collected by filtration and dried *in vacuo* to afford the desired diacid (**6**) (1.94 g, 67%) as white solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.73 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.68 (s, 2H, ArH), 5.00 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 3.48 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 3.39 (m, 4H, CH₂NHCO), 2.38 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO); ESI-MS m/z 492[M+Cl]⁻, 480[M+Na]⁺, 458 [M+H]⁺, 456[M-H]⁻.

Step 3: Synthesis of Compound 21

[0289] Compound **21** was prepared using General Procedure B with diacid **6** (0.11 g, 0.31 mmol), dendrimer **5** (0.94 g, 0.74 mmol), 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (0.10 g, 0.74 mmol), and 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDC) (0.15 g, 0.74 mmol) in DMF (10 mL). Purification by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ = 1:15) afforded 0.87 g (95%) of the desired product (**21**) as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.42 (s, 3H, ArH), 7.26 (m, 5H, ArH), 5.04 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 3.62 (m, 28H, CH₂O and CH₂NHCO), 3.48 (m, 14H, CH₂NHCO), 3.38 (m, 16H, CH₂NHCO and CH₂NH), 3.23 (m, 6H, CH₂NHCO), 2.56 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 4H, CH₂CO), 2.42 (m, 14H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu), 1.45 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu).

Step 4: Synthesis of Dendrimer 14

[0290] The compound **14** was prepared using General Procedure D, using Cbz-protected compound **21** (0.70 g, 0.24 mmol) and Pd-C (0.1 g) in EtOH (150 mL). After filtering off the used Pd-C, removal of the solvent afforded 0.64 g (94%) of the desired amine (**14**) as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.44 (s, 3H, ArH), 3.62 (m, 28H, CH₂O and CH₂NHCO), 3.48 (m, 12H, CH₂NHCO), 3.40 (m, 16H, CH₂NHCO and CH₂NH), 3.22 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂NH₂), 2.64 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.58 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 4H, CH₂CO), 2.42 (m, 12H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu), 1.45 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu); ESI-MS m/z 2844[M+Cl]⁻, 2832[M+Na]⁺, 2810[M-H]⁻.

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EXAMPLE 4

Synthesis and Characterization of a Fluorescein-Labeled Dendrimer (11)

[0291] The synthesis of fluorescein-labeled dendrimer (11) from dendrimer (14) is illustrated in Figure 8 and is set forth in greater detail below.

Step 1: Synthesis of Compound 22

[0292] The compound 22 was prepared using General Procedure E with the dendrimer amine 14 (0.30 g, 0.11 mmol), fluorescein isothiocyanate (FLITC) (0.083 g, 0.21 mmol), and Et₃N (89 mL, 0.64 mmol) in a mixture of DMF and CH₂Cl₂ (12 mL, 1:5 ratio). The fluorescein-labeled Boc-protected guanidine (22) was obtained as 0.37 g (93%) of an orange foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.22 (s, 3H, ArH), 7.82 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.02 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.56 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.40 (m, 2H, ArH), 3.78 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCS), 3.48 (m, 28H, CH₂O and CH₂NHCO), 3.36 (m, 14H, CH₂NHCO), 3.22 (m, 16H, CH₂NHCO and CH₂NH), 2.44 (t, J = 6.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.38 (m, 4H, CH₂CO), 2.24 (m, 12H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu), 1.45 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu).

Step 2: Synthesis of Compound 11

[0293] The compound 11 was prepared using General Procedure F with the Boc-protected guanidine 22 (0.18 g, 0.056 mmol) and 2N HCl in dioxane (10 mL). The fluorescein-labeled guanidinium HCl salt (11) was obtained as 0.12 g (94%) of an orange hygroscopic solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.18 (s, 3H, ArH), 7.94 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.62 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.22 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.02-6.68 (m, 5H, ArH), 3.68 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCS), 3.52 (m, 28H, CH₂O and CH₂NHCO), 3.24 (m, 30H, CH₂NHCO and CH₂NH₃⁺), 2.42 (m, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.32 (m, 14H, CH₂CO).

EXAMPLE 5

Synthesis and Characterization of Transport Molecule (16) with 6-Mercaptopurine Bonded to Nonaguanidine Dendrimer

[0294] The synthesis of transport molecule (16) with nine guanidine groups is illustrated in Figure 5 and is set forth in greater detail below.

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Step 1: Synthesis of Compound 15

[0295] The compound 15 is prepared from Boc-protected dendrimer 14 by reacting it with N-acetyl-Cys(S-trityl)-Ala-Ala-COOH using HOBt and EDC to afford Compound 15.

Step 2: Synthesis of Compound 16

[0296] The transport molecule 16 is prepared from Boc-protected 15 by reacting it with Li/NH₃ to deprotect the S-trityl group. Next, the resulting product is treated with dilithio-bis(5-nitropyridine)(DTNP) to activate the resulting thiol. Treatment of the resulting product with 6-mercaptopurine forms the Boc-protected transport molecule in which the 6-mercaptopurine is bonded to the dendrimer by a disulfide linkage through the N-acetyl-Cys-Ala-Ala linker where the alanine residues are included as additional spacers to render the disulfide more accessible to thiols and reducing agent for cleavage within the cell. Subsequent treatment with trifluoroacetic acid removes the Boc protecting groups to afford the transport molecule (16).

EXAMPLE 6

**Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer (25) with
Nine Protected Guanidine Groups**

[0297] The synthesis of dendrimer (25) with nine Boc-protected guanidine groups is illustrated in Figure 9 and is set forth in greater detail below.

Step 1: Synthesis of 3-[2-(3-Benzoyloxycarbonylamino-propionylamino)-3-(2-ethoxycarbonyl-ethoxy)-2-(2-ethoxycarbonylethoxymethyl)-propoxy]-propionic acid ethyl ester (23)

[0298] The compound 23 was prepared using General Procedure B with amine 1 (4.0 g, 9.49 mmol), N-Cbz-β-alanine (2.54 g, 11.39 mmol), 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (1.53 g, 11.39 mmol), and 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDC) (2.18 g, 11.39 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (50 mL).

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Purification by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, EtOAc:*n*-hexane = 1:3) afforded 5.36 g (90%) of the desired product 23 as a colorless syrup. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.31 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.16 (s, 1H, NH), 5.66 (s, 1H, NH), 5.08 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 4.12 (q, J = 6.4 Hz, 6H, OCH₂), 3.67 (m, 12H, CH₂O), 3.45 (dt, J = 7.4, 15.0 Hz, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 2.51 (t, J = 8.4 Hz, 6H, CH₂CO), 2.37 (dt, J = 7.4, 8.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 1.24 (t, J = 6.4 Hz, 9H, CH₃).

Step 2: Synthesis of 3-[2-(3-Benzyloxycarbonylamino-propionylamino)-3-(2-carboxyethoxy)-2-(2-carboxyethoxymethyl)-propoxy]-propionic acid (7)

[0299] The compound 7 was prepared using General Procedure A with the ester (23) (3.93 g, 6.27 mmol) and an aqueous NaOH solution (3.01 g, 72.25 mmol in 50mL of H₂O) in methanol (50 mL). The desired tri-acid (7) was obtained as 3.23 g (95%) of a colorless syrup. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.32 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.38 (s, 1H, NH), 5.81 (s, 1H, NH), 5.08 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 3.68 (m, 12H, CH₂O), 3.40 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 2.54 (m, 6H, CH₂CO), 2.40 (m, 2H, CH₂CO); MALDI-FTMS *m/z* 649.2943 calculated for C₃₀H₄₆N₂O₁₂, (free guanidine)+Na⁺, found 649.2949.

Step 3: Synthesis of Compound 24

[0300] The compound 24 was prepared using General Procedure B with the amine 5 (4.0 g, 1.59 mmol), N-Cbz-β-alanine-tri-acid 7 (0.22 g, 0.39 mmol), 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (0.21g, 1.59 mmol), and 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDC) (0.30 g, 1.59 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (25 mL). Purification by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, CH₂Cl₂:methanol = 10:1) afforded 1.45 g (86%) of the desired product (24) as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 11.40 (s, 9H, NH), 8.61 (s, 9H, NH), 7.87 (s, 9H, NH), 7.32 (m, 5H, ArH), 7.18 (s, 3H, NH), 6.80 (s, 1H, NH), 6.62 (s, 3H, NH), 6.14 (s, 1H, NH), 5.04 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 3.64 (m, 48H, CH₂O), 3.53 (m, 18H, CH₂NH), 3.39 (m, 26H, CH₂NHCO), 2.48 (m, 8H, CH₂CO), 2.41 (m, 24H, CH₂CO), 1.49 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu), 1.47 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu); ESI-MS *m/z* 4272 [*M*_{avg}].

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Step 4: Synthesis of Compound 25

[0301] The compound 25 was prepared using General Procedure D with Cbz-protected dendrimer 24 (0.95 g, 0.22 mmol) and Pd-C (0.1 g) in EtOH (30 mL). After filtering off the used Pd-C, removal of the solvent was followed by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, CH₂Cl₂:methanol =10:1) to afford the desired amine 25 in 44% (0.77 g) yield as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 3.68 (m, 48H, CH₂O), 3.62 (m, 18H, CH₂NH), 3.42 (m, 24H, CH₂NHCO), 3.26 (m, 2H, CH₂NH₂), 2.58 (m, 8H, CH₂CO), 2.47 (m, 24H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu).

EXAMPLE 7

Synthesis and Characterization of a Fluorescein-Labeled Dendrimer (12)

[0302] The synthesis of fluorescein-labeled dendrimer (12) from dendrimer (25) is illustrated in Figure 9 and is set forth in greater detail below.

Step 1: Synthesis of Compound 26

[0303] The compound 26 was prepared using General Procedure E with the amine 25 (0.40 g, 0.01 mmol) fluorescein isothiocyanate (FLITC) (0.076 g, 0.02 mmol), and Et₃N (135 μL, 0.04 mmol) in a mixture of DMF and CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL, 1:4 ratio). After short path column chromatography (on silica gel, CH₂Cl₂:methanol = 10:1), the fluorescein-labeled Boc-protected guanidine 26 was obtained in 58% (0.26 g) yield as an orange foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (10% CD₃OD in CDCl₃): δ 7.98 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.64 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.18 (m, 3H, ArH), 6.48 (m, 4H, ArH), 3.80 (m, 50H, CH₂O and CH₂NHCS), 3.38 (m, 18H, CH₂NH), 3.26 (m, 24H, CH₂NHCO), 2.58 (m, 6H, CH₂CO), 2.47 (m, 26H, CH₂CO), 1.38 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu), 1.37 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu).

Step 2: Synthesis of Compound 12

[0304] The compound 12 was prepared using General Procedure F with the Boc-protected guanidine 26 (198 mg, 0.04 mmol) in 2N HCl in dioxane (14 mL). The

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fluorescein-labeled guanidinium HCl salt (12) was obtained in 90% (121 mg) yield as an orange hygroscopic solid. ^1H NMR (D_2O): δ 7.95 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.61 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.24 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.02-6.64 (m, 5H, ArH), 3.70 (m, 2H, CH_2NHCS), 3.50 (m, 48H, CH_2O), 3.26-3.12 (m, 44H, CH_2NHCO and CH_2NH), 2.48 (m, 6H, CH_2CO), 2.33 (m, 26H, CH_2CO).

EXAMPLE 8

Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer (31) with Six Protected Guanidine Groups

[0305] The synthesis of dendrimer (31) with six Boc-protected guanidine groups is illustrated in Figure 10 and is set forth in greater detail below.

Step 1: Synthesis of 3-[2-Amino-3-(2-cyanoethoxy)propoxy]-propionitrile (27)

[0306] To a suspension of 2-amino-1,3-propandiol (3.0 g, 0.033 mol) in 1,4-dioxane (8 mL) was added aqueous 40% KOH (0.46 mL, 0.003 mol), and the mixture was stirred for 10 minutes. The reaction solution was cooled to 0°C , and acrylonitrile (5.20 mL, 0.079 mol) was added with a syringe. The reaction was then warmed to room temperature, stirred overnight, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH_2Cl_2 (120 mL) and washed with saturated aqueous NaHCO_3 (2 x 70 mL) and H_2O (2 x 70 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 , and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 = 1:10$ affording 1.62 g (34%) of the desired dinitrile (27) as a slightly yellow liquid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 3.68 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 4H, CH_2O), 3.48 (m, 4H, CH_2O), 3.15 (m, 1H, CH), 2.61 (t, $J = 6.4$ Hz, 1H, CH_2CN).

Step 2: Synthesis of 3-[2-Amino-3-(2-ethoxycarbonylethoxy)propoxy]-propionic acid ethyl ester HCl salt (28)

[0307] A solution of the dinitrile (27) (1.60 g, 11.10 mmol) in anhydrous ethanolic HCl [freshly made by the reaction of acetyl chloride (5.0 mL) and EtOH (20

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mL) at 0°C] was heated at reflux temperature for 2 hours. After completion of the reaction, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure to afford hydrochloride salt (28) in a 86% (3.14 g) yield as a slightly yellow solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 4.14 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H, CH₂O), 3.70 (m, 4H, CH₂O), 3.38 (m, 4H, CH₂O), 3.13 (m, 1H, CH), 2.55 (t, J = 6.3 Hz, 4H, CH₂CO), 1.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H, CH₃).

Step 3: Synthesis of 3-[2-(3-Benzyloxycarbonylaminopropionylamino)-3-(2-ethoxycarbonylethoxy)-propoxy]-propionic acid ethyl ester (29)

[0308] The compound 29 was prepared using General Procedure B with the ester hydrochloride salt (28) (1.53 g, 5.26 mmol), N-Cbz-β-alanine (1.41 g, 6.31 mmol), 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (0.99 g, 7.36 mmol), 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDC) (1.41 g, 7.36 mmol) and Et₃N (1.02 mL, 7.36 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL). Purification by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, EtOAc:n-hexane = 3:1) afforded 2.39 g (92%) of the desired product (29) as a colorless liquid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.33 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.33 (d, J = 8.0 Hz, 1H, NH), 5.57 (s, 1H, NH), 5.08 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 4.18 (m, 1H, CH), 4.13 (q, J = 7.2 Hz, 4H, CH₂O), 3.70 (m, 4H, CH₂O), 3.56 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 3.48 (dt, J = 6.0, 12.0 Hz, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 3.40 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 2.53 (m, 4H, CH₂CO), 2.42 (t, J = 6.0 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 1.25 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 6H, CH₃).

Step 4: Synthesis of 3-[2-(3-Benzyloxycarbonylaminopropionylamino)-3-(2-carboxy-ethoxy)propoxy]-propionic acid (8)

[0309] The compound 8 was prepared using General Procedure A with diester 29 (1.32 g, 2.66 mmol) and an aqueous NaOH solution (0.85 g, 21.29 mmol in 10 mL of H₂O) in methanol (10 mL). The desired diacid (8) was obtained in 96% (1.12 g) yield as a colorless syrup. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.32 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.59 (s, 1H, NH), 5.54 (s, 1H, NH), 5.08 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 4.18 (m, 1H, CH), 3.69 (m, 4H, CH₂O), 3.56 (m, 2H, CH₂O), 3.45 (m, 4H, CH₂NHCO and CH₂O), 2.55 (m, 4H, CH₂O), 2.43 (m, 2H, CH₂CO); ESI-MS m/z 475[M+Cl]⁻, 463[M+Na]⁺, 441 [M+H]⁺, 439[M-H]⁻.

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Step 5: Synthesis of Compound 30

[0310] The compound 30 was prepared using General Procedure B with the diacid (8) (0.2 g, 0.45 mmol), dendrimer amine 5 (1.37 g, 1.09 mmol), 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (0.15g, 1.09 mmol), 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDC) (0.21 g, 1.09 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (30 mL). Purification by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ = 1:15) afforded 1.10 g (83%) of the desired product (30) as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 11.40 (s, 6H, NH), 8.59 (s, 6H, NH), 7.86 (s, 6H, NH), 7.80 (s, 2H, NH), 7.31 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.68(s, 2H, NH), 6.52 (s, 1H, NH), 6.04 (s, 1H, NH), 5.06 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 4.18 (m, 1H, CH), 3.67 (m, 32H, CH₂O), 3.54 (m, 16H, CH₂NHCO), 3.47 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 3.39 (m, 12H, CH₂NH), 2.41 (m, 22H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu).

Step 6: Synthesis of Compound 31

[0311] The compound 31 was prepared using General Procedure D with Cbz-protected compound 30 (0.99 g, 0.34 mmol) and Pd-C (0.1 g) in EtOH (50 mL). After filtering off the used Pd-C, removal of the solvent gave the desired amine (31) in 98% (0.93 g) yield as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 11.40 (s, 6H, NH), 8.59 (s, 6H, NH), 7.92 (s, 6H, NH), 7.80 (s, 2H, NH), 6.76 (s, 2H, NH), 6.54 (s, 1H, NH), 4.18 (m, 1H, CH), 3.67 (m, 32H, CH₂O), 3.52 (m, 16H, CH₂NHCO), 3.42 (m, 12H, CH₂NH), 3.36 (m, 2H, CH₂NH:), 2.41 (m, 22H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 54H, *t*-Bu); ESI-MS *m/z* 2821[M+H]⁺.

EXAMPLE 9

**Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer (33) with
Twelve Protected Guanidine Groups**

[0312] The synthesis of dendrimer (33) with twelve Boc-protected guanidine groups is illustrated in Figure 11 and is set forth in greater detail below.

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Step 1: Synthesis of Compound 32

[0313] The compound 32 was prepared using General Procedure B with diacid (8) (0.06 g, 0.14 mmol), dendrimer amine 31 (0.90 g, 0.32 mmol), 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (0.06g, 0.41 mmol), 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)-carbodiimide (EDC) (0.08 g, 0.41 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (10 mL). Purification by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ = 1:10) afforded 0.76 g (91%) of the desired product 32 as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 11.40 (s, 12H, NH), 8.62 (s, 12H, NH), 7.89 (s, 12H, NH), 7.80 (s, 4H, NH), 7.32 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.98(s, 2H, NH), 6.82 (s, 1H, NH), 6.64 (s, 4H, NH), 6.48 (s, 2H, NH), 5.94 (s, 1H, NH), 5.06 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 4.14 (m, 3H, CH), 3.68 (m, 72H, CH₂O), 3.56 (m, 36H, CH₂NHCO), 3.40 (m, 26H, CH₂NHCO and CH₂NH), 2.46 (m, 38H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 108H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 108H, *t*-Bu).

Step 2: Synthesis of Compound 33

[0314] The compound 33 was prepared using General Procedure D with Cbz-protected compound 32 (0.32 g, 0.05 mmol) and Pd-C (0.05 g) in EtOH (20 mL). After filtering off the used Pd-C, removal of the solvent afforded the desired amine (33) in 80% (0.25 g) yield as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 11.40 (s, 12H, NH), 8.64 (s, 12H, NH), 7.90 (s, 12H, NH), 7.80 (s, 4H, NH), 7.02 (s, 2H, NH), 6.64 (s, 4H, NH), 6.48 (s, 2H, NH), 4.08 (m, 3H, CH), 3.68 (m, 72H, CH₂O), 3.54 (m, 36H, CH₂NHCO), 3.38 (m, 24H, CH₂NH), 2.88 (m, 2H, CH₂NH₂), 2.44 (m, 38H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 108H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 108H, *t*-Bu).

EXAMPLE 10

Synthesis and Characterization of a Fluorescein-Labeled Dendrimer (13)

[0315] The synthesis of fluorescein-labeled dendrimer (13) from dendrimer (33) is illustrated in Figure 11 and is set forth in greater detail below.

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Step 1: Synthesis of Compound 34

[0316] The compound 34 was prepared using General Procedure E with the amine 33 (0.15 g, 0.025 mmol), fluorescein isothiocyanate (FLITC) (23 mg, 0.05 mmol) and Et₃N (14 μ L, 0.10 mmol) in a mixture of DMF and CH₂Cl₂ (11 mL, 1:10 ratio). After short path column chromatography (on silica gel, CH₂Cl₂:MeOH = 10:1), the fluorescein-labeled guanidine (34) was obtained in 93% (0.148 g) yield as an orange foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.13 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.72 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.26 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.65 (m, 4H, ArH), 4.14 (m, 3H, CH), 3.86 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCS), 3.66 (m, 72H, CH₂O), 3.49 (m, 36H, CH₂NHCO), 3.38 (m, 24H, CH₂NH), 2.66 (m, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.60 (m, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.44 (m, 36H, CH₂CO), 1.48 (s, 108H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 108H, *t*-Bu).

Step 2: Synthesis of Compound 13

[0317] The compound 13 was prepared using General Procedure F with Boc-protected guanidine dendrimer (34) (70 mg, 0.01 mmol) in 2N HCl in dioxane (6 mL). After the reaction was complete, the resulting orange precipitate was collected and dried *in vacuo*. The solid was then washed with CH₂Cl₂ and cold H₂O. The fluorescein-labeled guanidinium HCl salt (13) was obtained in 76% (36 mg) yield as an orange solid which is barely soluble in H₂O. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.21 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.81 (m, 1H, ArH), 7.51 (m, 3H, ArH), 7.34 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.20 (m, 2H, ArH), 4.10 (m, 3H, CH), 3.92 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCS), 3.66 (m, 72H, CH₂O), 3.34 (m, 24H, CH₂NH₃⁺), 3.32 (m, 36H, CH₂NHCO), 2.72 (m, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.62 (m, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.44 (m, 36H, CH₂CO).

EXAMPLE 11

Synthesis and Characterization of a Fluorescein-Labeled Monoguanidine Compound (41)

[0318] The synthesis of fluorescein-labeled monoguanidine compound (41) with is illustrated in Figure 12 and is set forth in greater detail below.

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Step1: Synthesis of 6-(3-Benzylloxycarbonylaminopropionylamino)-hexanoic acid methyl ester (35)

[0319] The compound 35 was prepared using General Procedure B with 6-aminohexanoic acid methyl ester hydrochloride salt (3.0 g, 16.5 mmol), N-Cbz- β -alanine (3.68 g, 16.5 mmol), 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (2.68 g, 19.8 mmol), 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylamino-propyl)carbodiimide (EDC) (3.80 g, 19.8 mmol) and Et₃N (5.52 mL, 39.6 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ (100 mL). Recrystallization of the crude product from a mixture of MeOH and H₂O (10:1 ratio) afforded 5.28 g (91%) of the desired product (35) as a white solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): 7.32 (m, 5H, ArH), 5.82 (s, 1H, NH), 5.54 (s, 1H, NH), 5.07 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 3.64 (s, 3H, OCH₃), 3.45 (dt, J = 6.1, 12.0 Hz, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 3.21 (dt, J = 6.4, 12.8 Hz, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 2.38 (dt, J = 6.1, 6.8 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.29 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 1.61 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.48 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.33 (m, 2H, CH₂).

Step 2: Synthesis of 6-(3-Benzylloxycarbonylaminopropionylamino)-hexanoic acid (36)

[0320] The compound 36 was prepared using General Procedure A with ester 35 (3.20 g, 9.13 mmol) and an aqueous NaOH solution (1.46 g, 36.53 mmol in 40 mL of H₂O) in MeOH (40 mL). Recrystallization from MeOH produced the desired acid 36 in 95% (2.92 g) yield as a white solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 7.32 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.10 (s, 1H, NH), 5.67 (s, 1H, NH), 5.04 (s, 2H, OCH₂Ar), 3.45 (dt, J = 6.4, 12.0 Hz, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 3.21 (dt, J = 6.4, 12.8 Hz, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 2.40 (dt, J = 6.0, 6.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.32 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 1.61 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.48 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.33 (m, 2H, CH₂); ESI-MS m/z 371[M+Cl]⁺, 359[M+Na]⁺, 337[M+H]⁺, 335[M-H]⁻.

Step 3: Synthesis of {2-[5-(2-tert-Butoxycarbonylaminoethylcarbamoyl)-pentylcarbamoyl]ethyl}-carbamic acid benzyl ester (37)

[0321] The compound 37 was prepared using General Procedure B with the acid 36 2.23 g, 6.63 mmol), 2-*t*-butoxycarbonylamino-ethylamine (1.27 g, 7.95 mmol), 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (1.25g, 9.28 mmol), and 1-ethyl-3-(3-

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dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDC) (1.79g, 9.28 mmol) in DMF (20 mL). Recrystallization of the crude product from EtOAc afforded 2.30 g (73%) of the desired product (37) as a white solid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 7.32 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.44 (s, 1H, NH), 6.23 (s, 1H, NH), 5.67 (s, 1H, NH), 5.19 (s, 1H, NH), 5.06 (s, 2H, OCH_2Ar), 3.45 (dt, $J = 6.4, 12.4$ Hz, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 3.31 (dt, $J = 5.2, 10.4$ Hz, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 3.21 (m, 4H, CH_2NHCO), 2.39 (dt, $J = 6.0, 6.4$ Hz, 2H, CH_2CO), 2.14 (dt, $J = 7.0, 7.2$ Hz, 2H, CH_2CO), 1.60 (m, 2H, CH_2), 1.47 (m, 2H, CH_2), 1.41 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu), 1.30 (m, 2H, CH_2); ESI-MS m/z 513 $[\text{M}+\text{Cl}]^-$, 501 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$, 479 $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$.

Step 4: Synthesis of Compound 38

[0322] To a solution of the Boc-protected compound 37 (1.73 g, 3.61 mmol) in 1,4-dioxane (8 mL), was added 4N HCl in dioxane (8 mL) by syringe under a nitrogen atmosphere at ice bath temperature. The resulting mixture was then vigorously stirred for 1 hour. The resulting mixture was concentrated on a rotary evaporator, and dried *in vacuo* to afford a white solid. The solid was dissolved in 10 mL of H_2O and the insoluble precipitate was filtered off. The filtrate was lyophilized to provide a colorless foam-shaped solid as a deprotected HCl salt. The resulting HCl salt was dissolved in MeOH (3 mL) and diluted with CHCl_3 (16 mL). To the resulting clear solution was added Et_3N (2.0 mL, 14.4 mmol) and then a $\text{N,N}'$ -diBoc- N'' -triflylguanidine (2.83 g, 7.22 mmol) at 0°C . The mixture was stirred overnight, poured into 50 mL of H_2O , and extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (3 x 50 mL). The organic phase was washed with 1N HCl (2 x 50 mL), with saturated NaHCO_3 (50 mL), and with H_2O (2 x 50 mL) and then dried over anhydrous Na_2SO_4 . After removal of the solvent under reduced pressure, the resulting crude product was purified by recrystallization from EtOAc. The desired guanidine (38) was obtained in 96% (2.15 g) yield as a white solid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 11.42 (s, 1H, NH), 8.62 (s, 1H, NH), 7.84 (s, 1H, NH), 6.88 (s, 1H, NH), 5.96 (s, 1H, NH), 5.06 (s, 2H, OCH_2Ar), 3.52 (m, 2H, CH_2NH), 3.45 (dt, $J = 6.4, 12.4$ Hz, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 3.38 (m, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 3.23 (dt, $J = 6.4, 12.8$ Hz, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 2.42 (dt, $J = 6.0, 6.4$ Hz, 2H, CH_2CO), 2.18 (dt, $J = 7.0, 7.2$ Hz, 2H, CH_2CO), 1.61 (m, 2H, CH_2), 1.48 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu), 1.44 (s,

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9H, *t*-Bu), 1.43 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.31 (m, 2H, CH₂); ESI-MS *m/z* 655.4[M+Cl]⁻, 643.6[M+Na]⁺, 621.6[M+H]⁺, 619.6[M-H]⁻.

Step 5: Synthesis of Compound 39

[0323] The compound 39 was prepared using General Procedure D with Cbz-protected compound 38 (0.52 g, 0.84 mmol) and Pd-C (0.10 g) in EtOH (150 mL). After filtering off the used Pd-C, removal of the solvent afforded the desired amine (39) in 98% (0.40 g) yield as a colorless foam shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 11.42 (s, 1H, NH), 8.62 (s, 1H, NH), 7.73 (s, 1H, NH), 7.18 (s, 1H, NH), 3.56 (m, 2H, CH₂NH), 3.40 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 3.23 (dt, *J* = 6.4, 12.6 Hz, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 3.04 (m, 2H, CH₂NH₂), 2.38 (dt, *J* = 6.0, 6.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.20 (m, 2H, CH₂CO), 1.64 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.54 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.52 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu), 1.48 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu), 1.34 (m, 2H, CH₂); ESI-MS *m/z* 487[M+H]⁺.

Step 6: Synthesis of Compound 40

[0324] The compound 40 was prepared using General Procedure E with the amine 39 (0.24 g, 0.49 mmol), fluorescein isothiocyanate (FLITC) (0.38 g, 0.98 mmol), and Et₃N (0.41 mL, 2.96 mmol) in a mixture of DMF and CH₂Cl₂ (12 mL, 1:5 ratio). The fluorescein-labeled Boc-protected guanidine (40) was obtained in 97% (0.42 g) yield as an orange foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.13 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.72 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.12 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.65 (m, 4H, ArH), 3.85 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCS), 3.43 (m, 2H, CH₂NH), 3.30 (m, 4H, CH₂NHCO), 3.17 (m, 2H, CH₂NHCO), 2.56 (dt, *J* = 6.0, 6.4 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.16 (dt, *J* = 6.2, 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂CO), 1.59 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.49 (m, 2H, CH₂), 1.48 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu), 1.43 (s, 9H, *t*-Bu), 1.31 (m, 2H, CH₂); MALDI-FTMS *m/z* 898.3416 calculated for C₄₃H₅₃N₇O₁₁S+Na⁺, found 898.3434.

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Step 7: Synthesis of 5-(3-{2-[5-(2-Guanidinoethylcarbamoyl)-pentylcarbamoyl]-ethyl}-thioureido)-2-(6-hydroxy-3-oxo-3H-xanthen-9-yl)-benzoic acid (41)

[0325] Boc-protected guanidine **40** (0.24 g, 0.27 mmol) was treated with 30% trifluoroacetic acid in CH_2Cl_2 at room temperature for 1 hour. After the reaction was completed, the resulting mixture were evaporated and dried *in vacuo*. Next, the residue was decanted with CH_2Cl_2 and H_2O . After drying *in vacuo*, the fluorescein labeled guanidinium TFA salt (**41**) was obtained in 84% (0.18 g) yield as an orange solid, which is barely soluble in H_2O . ^1H NMR (CD_3OD): δ 8.13 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.81 (m, 2H, ArH), 7.16 (m, 2H, ArH), 6.82 (m, 4H, ArH), 3.83 m, 2H, CH_2NHCS), 3.26 (m, 4H, CH_2NHCO and CH_2NH), 3.16 (t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, 2H, CH_2NHCO), 2.54 (dt, $J = 6.0, 6.4$ Hz, 2H, CH_2CO), 2.16 (dt, $J = 6.2, 7.2$ Hz, 2H, CH_2CO), 1.56 (m, 2H, CH_2), 1.47 (m, 2H, CH_2), 1.31 (m, 2H, CH_2); MALDI-FTMS m/z 676.2475 calculated for $\text{C}_{33}\text{H}_{37}\text{N}_7\text{O}_7\text{S}$ (free base)+ H^+ , found 676.2545.

EXAMPLE 12

Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer (43) with Nine Protected Guanidine Groups

[0326] The synthesis of dendrimer (**43**) with nine Boc-protected guanidine groups is illustrated in **Figure 13** and is set forth in greater detail below.

Step 1: Synthesis of Compound 42

[0327] The compound **42** was prepared using General Procedure B with the acid (**4**) (0.22 g, 0.46 mmol), the dendrimer amine (**5**) (2.34 g, 1.85 mmol), 1-hydrobenzotriazole (HOBt) (0.25 g, 1.85 mmol), and 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide (EDC) (0.36 g, 1.85 mmol) in DMF (20 mL). Purification by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, $\text{MeOH}:\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2 = 1:10$) afforded 1.79 g (93%) of the desired product (**42**) as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ^1H NMR (CDCl_3): δ 11.39 (s, 9H, NH), 8.62 (s, 9H, NH), 7.83 (s, 9H, NH), 7.32 (m, 5H, ArH), 6.88 (s, 3H, NH), 6.58 (s, 1H, NH), 5.06 (s, 2H, OCH_2Ar), 3.52 (m, 2H, CH_2NH), 3.67 (m, 48H, CH_2O), 3.47 (m, 18H, CH_2NH), 3.38 (m, 24H, CH_2NHCO), 2.40 (m, 30H, CH_2CO), 1.48 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu).

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Step 2: Synthesis of Compound 43

[0328] The compound 43 was prepared using General Procedure D with Cbz-protected compound (42) (1.46 g, 0.34 mmol) and Pd-C (0.20 g) in EtOH (120 mL). After filtering off the used Pd-C, removal of the solvent gave the desired dendrimer amine (43) in 90% (1.27 g) yield as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 3.66 (m, 48H, CH₂O), 3.49 (m, 18H, CH₂NH), 3.38 (m, 24H, CH₂NHCO), 2.43 (m, 24H, CH₂CO), 1.51 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu).

EXAMPLE 13

Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer with a Reactive Maleimide Group (44) .

[0329] The synthesis of a dendrimer with a reactive maleimide group and nine Boc-protected guanidines (44) is illustrated in Figure 13 and is set forth in greater detail below.

Step 1: Synthesis of Compound 44

[0330] To a solution of dendrimeric amine 43 (0.4 g, 0.098 mmol) and N-succinimidyl 3-maleimidopropionate (0.10 g, 0.40 mmol) in dry DMF (2 mL), was added an excess of Et₃N (0.11 mL, 0.79 mmol) at room temperature. The resulting mixture was stirred for 4 hours at 50°C, then for 6 hours at room temperature. After the reaction was complete, the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The residue was diluted with CH₂Cl₂ (40 mL) and washed with 1N HCl (40 mL) and H₂O (2 x 40 mL). The organic phase was dried over anhydrous Na₂SO₄, and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ = 1:10) affording 0.34 g (82%) of the desired maleimido compound (44) as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 6.83 (s, 2H, vinyl CH), 3.72 (t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2H, CH₂N), 3.65 (m, 48H, CH₂O), 3.49 (m, 18H, CH₂NH), 3.37 (m, 24H, CH₂NHCO), 2.64 (m, 2H, CH₂CO), 2.43 (m, 30H, CH₂CO), 1.51 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu); ESI-MS m/z 1428.9 [M+3Na]³⁺, 1077.3[M+4Na]⁴⁺.

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EXAMPLE 14

Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer (46) with Nine Guanidine Groups

[0331] The synthesis of dendrimer (46) with nine guanidine groups is illustrated in Figure 14 and is set forth in greater detail below.

Step 1: Synthesis of Compound 45

[0332] To a solution of dendrimer amine 5 (1.0 g, 0.79 mmol) and Et₃N (0.13 mL, 0.95 mmol) in 10 mL of CH₂Cl₂, was added dropwise a solution of 1,3,5-benzenecarbonyl trichloride (55 mg, 0.21 mmol) in CH₂Cl₂ at room temperature. The mixture was stirred overnight and poured into ice water (50 mL). The resulting mixture was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (2 x 50 mL). The organic phase was washed with 1N HCl (2 x 50 mL), saturated NaHCO₃ (50 mL), brine (50 mL) and H₂O (2 x 50 mL), and evaporated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by flash column chromatography (on silica gel, MeOH:CH₂Cl₂ = 1:10) affording 0.73 g (89%) of the desired Boc-protected nonaguanidine compound (45) as a colorless foam-shaped solid. ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 11.40 (s, 9H, NH), 8.64 (s, 9H, NH), 8.49 (s, 3H, ArH), 8.01 (s, 3H, NH), 7.92 (s, 9H, NH), 6.72 (s, 3H, NH), 3.65 (m, 36H, CH₂O), 3.56 (m, 24H, CH₂NHCO), 3.38 (m, 18H, CH₂NH), 2.54 (m, 6H, CH₂CO), 2.40 (m, 18H, CH₂CO), 1.47 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu), 1.46 (s, 81H, *t*-Bu); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): δ 171.88, 171.71, 171.63, 166.36, 163.01, 157.13, 157.07, 152.96, 135.37, 128.84, 83.63, 83.56, 79.64, 69.59, 67.60, 59.96, 40.71, 37.34, 36.73, 28.60, 28.36; ESI-MS *m/z* 3936 [*M*_{avg}].

Step 2: Synthesis of Compound 46

[0333] The compound 46 was prepared using General Procedure F, using the Boc-protected dendrimer guanidine 45 (0.31 g, 78.6 mmol) in 2N HCl in dioxane (10 mL). The nona-guanidinium HCl salt (46) was obtained in 91% (0.18 g) yield as a colorless hygroscopic solid. ¹H NMR (CD₃OD): δ 8.62 (s, 1H, ArH), 8.54 (s, 2H, ArH), 3.65 (m, 42H, CH₂O and CH₂NHCO), 3.33 (m, 36H, CH₂NHCO and CH₂NH),

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2.60 (m, 6H, CH₂CO), 2.44 (m, 26H, CH₂CO); ¹³C NMR (CD₃OD): δ 174.62, 173.65, 168.00, 158.55, 136.12, 131.74, 130.20, 70.00, 68.45, 61.56, 41.94, 39.57, 38.11, 37.39, 34.79: ESI-MS m/z 2138 [M+H]⁺, 2172 [M-Cl]⁺.

EXAMPLE 15

Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer with Amidine Groups

[0334] The synthesis of a dendrimer with amidine groups is described below.

[0335] Starting from triacid **2** in figure 27, it is either possible to attach an unprotected amidine directly to the acid moiety, as illustrated in Figure 27, or to carry out the synthesis via a nitrile functionality which is converted to the amidine in the last step of the synthesis, as shown in Figure 28.

EXAMPLE 16

Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer with Thioureido Groups

[0336] The synthesis of a dendrimer with thioureido groups is described below.

[0337] The synthesis of the thioureido containing dendrimer structures is illustrated in Figures 29 through 31. The synthesis starts from the readily available triacid core structure **2**. This triacid is converted to the Boc protected tris amine **55**. Deprotection of the amines and subsequent reaction with benzoylisothiocyanate provides the benzoyl protected thioureido **56**, that is deprotected under basic conditions and protected as a tert butyl carbamate without purification of the free thioureido to obtain the Boc protected compound **57**. This is illustrated in Figure 29. Incorporation of a β-alanine structure via deprotection, coupling and deprotonation leads to the scaffold **58** that is allowed to react with a core structure either leading to six or nine thioureido containing transport molecules **59** and **60**, respectively. This is illustrated in Figures 30 and 31.

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EXAMPLE 17

Synthesis and Characterization of a Dendrimer with Ureido Groups.

[0338] The synthesis of a dendrimer with ureido or thioureido groups is described below.

[0339] The synthesis of the ureido containing dendrimer structures is illustrated in Figures 32 and 33. The synthesis commences with triacid 2 which is converted to the triamine 55. Deprotection of the Boc groups and subsequent reaction with Boc protected carbamic acid provides the Boc protected scaffold 62, containing three urea groups. This is illustrated in Figure 32. Analogous reactions with core structures 2 and 65 leads to six and nine ureido containing structures. This is illustrated in Figure 33.

CELLULAR UPTAKE AND TOXICITY STUDIES

[0340] Some of the dendrimeric molecules synthesized and characterized above include fluorescent tags (fluorescein). The fluorescein enables the cellular uptake of these dendrimers to be readily visualized. In this study, the cellular uptake of each molecular fluorescein-labeled dendrimer is visualized and quantified to assess the usability of each molecule in our work.

Method

[0341] HeLa S3, human epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells of approximately 50% confluency were treated with concentrations varying from 250 nM to 50 μ M of each of the molecular transporters 10, 11, 12, 13, and 41 at 37°C. The molecular transporters were directly added to the media (Dulbecco's modified eagle medium containing 10% fetal bovine serum and 1x antibiotic-antimycotic), and the delivery to the cells was visualized by microscopy.

[0342] Quantification of the uptake of the molecular transporter into the cells was performed by flow cytometry 4 hours after treatment. Adherent cells, grown on 6 well plates, were displaced with trypsin, after which the cells were

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washed with phosphate-buffered saline (PBS). The final cell pellet was collected by centrifugation and resuspended in PBS to a concentration of approximately 1×10^6 cells/mL. A minimum of 20,000 cell events were counted and analyzed using the FACSCalibur and CellQuest brand software (BD Biosciences, San Jose, CA).

[0343] A sulphorhodamine B (SRB) assay was performed to determine whether compound 12 showed cytotoxic effects to HeLa S3 cells. The cells were treated with varying concentrations (250 nM to 50 μ M) of compound 12 for 4 hours at 37°C. The cells were fixed with trichloroacetic acid and were then subsequently stained with SRB dye. The cells were washed with water, and the SRB-bound complexes were solubilized in Tris buffer. The absorbance at 572 nm was measured in each sample.

Results

[0344] The cellular uptake of five molecular transporters at each concentration was observed by microscopy. Generally, those transporters possessing higher efficiency of uptake into HeLa S3 cells showed brighter and increased number of cell staining (see Figures 16A-16N). Furthermore, as cells were treated with increasing transporter concentrations, there was also an increase in the number of stained cells. Preferential localization of the transporter to the nucleus and nucleolus (Figures 16A-16N) was observed.

[0345] To quantify the number of cells that had taken up the molecular transporter, FACS analyses were performed. Raw data collected by CellQuest acquisition was obtained. An example of one data set illustrating the percentage of uptake of compound 12 at various concentrations is shown in Figures 18A-18C, 19A-19C, 22A-22C, 23A-23C, 24A-24C, 25A-25C, and 26A-26C. The fluorescing cells of the gated population are shown in M2. The percentage uptake of compounds 10, 11, 12, 13, and 41 in HeLa S3 cells is shown in Table 1 and Figures 18A-18C, 19A-19C, 20, 22A-22C, 23A-23C, 24A-24C, 25A-25C, and 26A-26C. The values presented in Table 1 are an average percentage from two separate experiments. As the concentration of molecular transporter increased, there was a gradual increase of

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uptake into cells until saturation of approximately 100% of uptake was achieved.

This was observed for all 5 of transporters 10, 11, 12, 13, and 41. Transporters 11 (6 guanidines), 12 (9 guanidines), and 13 (12 guanidines) possess an increased number (>6) of guanidine groups and exhibited excellent delivery to HeLa S3 cells.

Transporters 11, 12, and 13 exhibit similar dose-dependent percentage uptake curves (Figure 20).

Table 1. Uptake of Fluorescein-Labeled Dendrimers by HeLa S3 Human Epithelioid Cervical Carcinoma Cells

Compound (Guanidines)	Percentage of Cellular Uptake							
	Untreated 0 nM	250 nM	500 nM	1 μ M	5 μ M	10 μ M	25 μ M	50 μ M
41 (1)	2.02	1.95	2.065	3.025	16.07	32.4	67.47	86.71
10 (3)	2.045	1.845	2.89	2.85	12.44	27.91	59.15	92.07
11 (6)	2.04	4.56	7.52	11.74	94.54	98.55	99.79	99.87
12 (9)	2.01	9.07	8.71	9.17	63.52	91.74	98.61	99.75
13 (12)	2.03	3.22	6.59	11.91	90.79	96.77	99.11	99.82

[0346] Cell viability was maintained with each molecular transporter such that cell count remained similar before and after treatment with the transporter. Furthermore, the SRB assay confirmed that compound 12 exhibited no cytotoxic effect and did not cause cell lysis during the 4 hour treatment at concentrations of up to 50 μ M (see Figure 21). This was demonstrated by the retention of the absorbance at 572 nm between 0.3 and 0.4 in each sample.

[0347] The results presented herein demonstrate that the molecular transporters of the invention are highly efficient and are effectively taken up into mammalian cells such as human cancer cells. Although the percentage of uptake varies between transporters and may vary at different concentrations, these transporters may be employed to deliver biologically active cargo molecules, such as proteins, nucleic acids, and pharmaceuticals into cells. Based on the preliminary results observed in cellular uptake by HeLa S3 epithelioid cervical carcinoma cells, it

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is clear that the dendrimers of the present invention may be used to deliver small organic molecules that have poor solubility in aqueous liquids such as serum and aqueous saline. Therefore, bioactive agents with therapeutic efficacies which are limited by low solubility may be administered in greater dosage using the dendrimers of the present invention. Furthermore, linking such drugs to a dendrimer of the present invention results in the production of molecule transporters with drugs that are more efficacious on a molar basis than is the same drug when it is not bonded or tethered to the dendrimer. Consequently, the dendrimers of the invention increase the pharmaceutical acceptability and bioavailability of pre-existing drugs and may be used to create drugs which otherwise would not be used due to poor bioavailability especially with drugs that would otherwise exhibit high activity. Biologically active molecules including, but not limited to, proteins, peptides, nucleic acids, small molecule pharmaceuticals, and other pharmaceuticals may be transformed, by linkage to a dendrimer of the invention, from unacceptable candidates into highly efficient candidates for drug development.

[0348] The following embodiments are non-limiting examples of various embodiments contemplated by the present invention.

[0349] A transport molecule, comprising: a dendrimer and a biologically active molecule, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one guanidine group, a salt of at least one guanidine group, at least one protected guanidine group, at least one amidine groups, a salt of at least one amidine group, at least one protected amidine group, at least one ureido group, a salt of at least one ureido group, at least one protected ureido group, at least one thioureido group, a salt of at least one thioureido group, or at least one protected thioureido group and further wherein the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer.

[0350] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least two groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups,

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terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0351] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0352] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises a first tetravalent atom and a second tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom and the second tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0353] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, and a third tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, and the third tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0354] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, a third tetravalent atom,

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and a fourth tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, the third tetravalent atom, and the fourth tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three groups bearing terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0355] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least two guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups, and the transport molecule possesses a degree of symmetry such that the at least two guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups are in identical chemical environments when all the guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups of the dendrimer are either neutrally charged or are protonated.

[0356] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises three or more guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal

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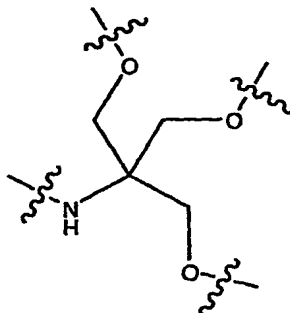
protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups, and the transport molecule possesses a degree of symmetry such that each of the three or more guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups is in an identical chemical environment when each of the three or more guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups is either neutrally charged or is protonated.

[0357] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimers comprises 3, 6, 9, or 12 guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof.

[0358] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-357, wherein the dendrimer comprises amide bonds but does not comprise any peptide linkages.

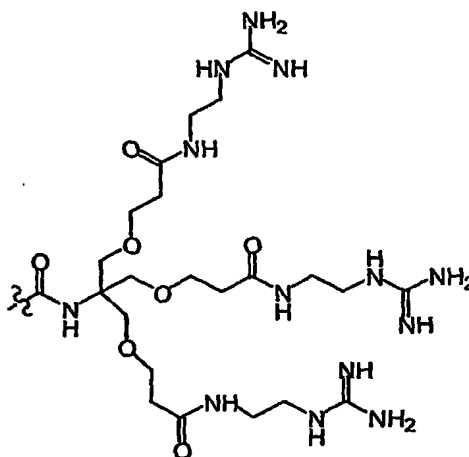
[0359] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-358, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one residue of tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one group of formula I

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I.

[0360] The transport molecule of paragraph 359, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one group of formula II or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula II



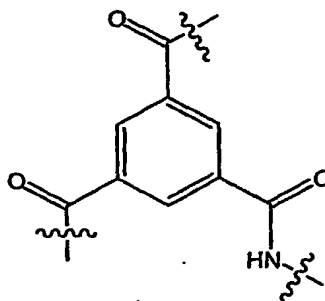
II.

[0361] The transport molecule of paragraph 360, wherein the dendrimer comprises one, two, three, or four groups of formula II or protonated or protected forms of the group of formula II.

[0362] The transport molecule of paragraph 359, wherein the dendrimer comprises one, two, three, or four groups of formula I.

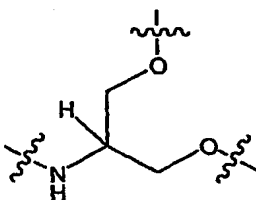
[0363] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-362, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one group having the formula III

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III.

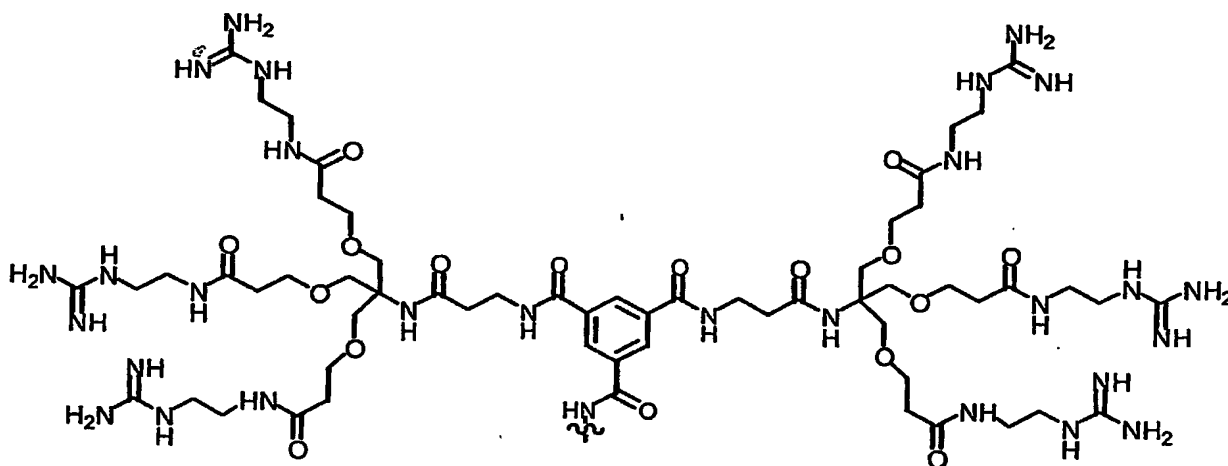
[0364] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-363, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one group having the formula IV



IV.

[0365] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises a group of formula V or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula V

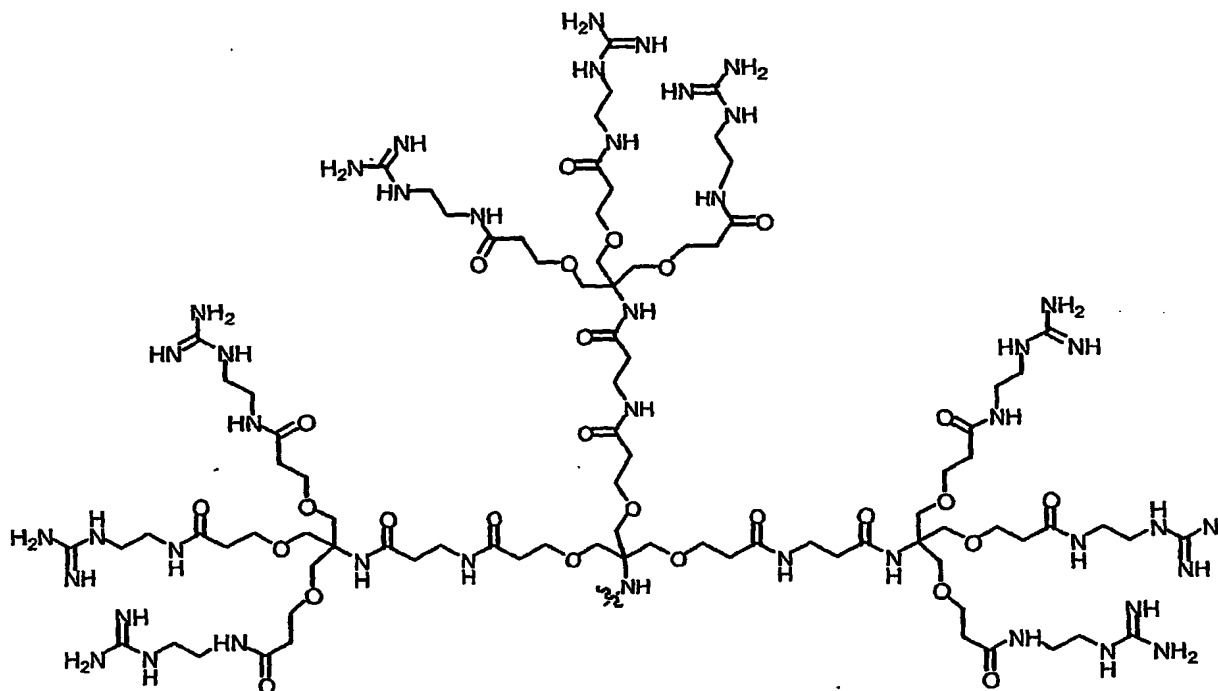
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V.

[0366] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises a group of formula VI or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula VI

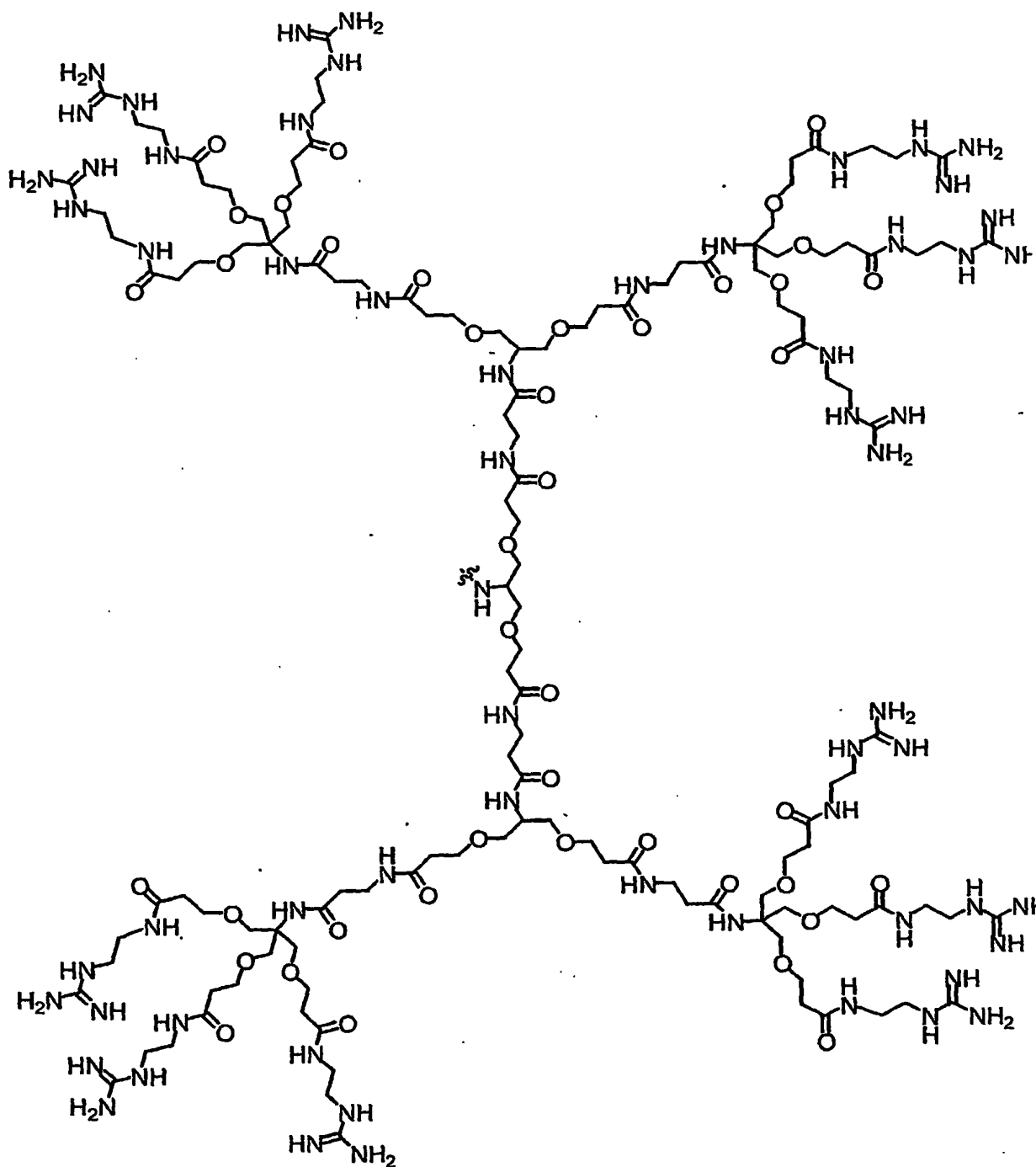
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VI.

[0367] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises a group of formula VII or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula VII

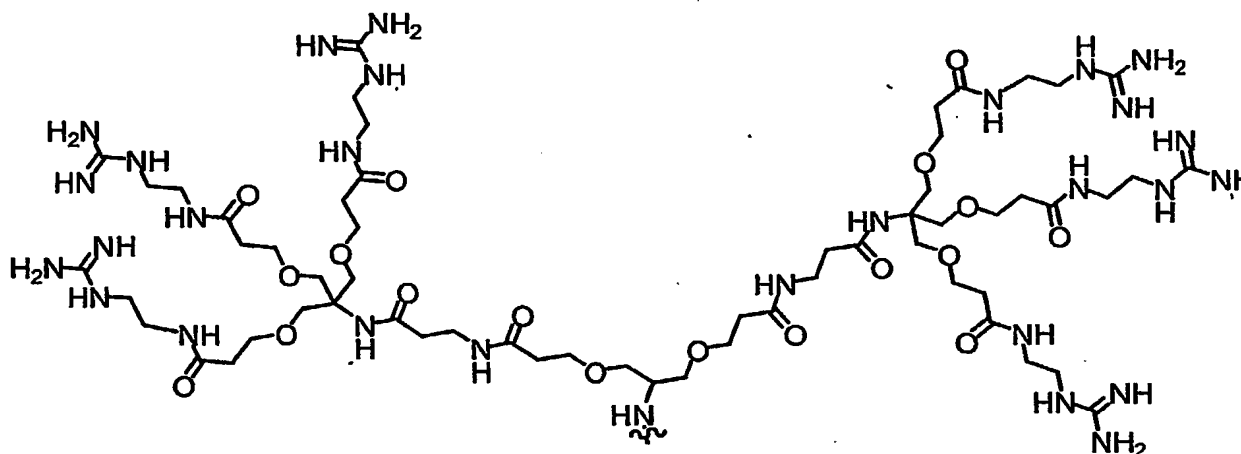
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VII.

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[0368] The transport molecule of paragraph 349, wherein the dendrimer comprises a group of formula VIII or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula VIII



VIII.

[0369] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-368, wherein the transport molecule comprises a disulfide linkage, an ether linkage, or a thioether linkage, and the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through the disulfide linkage, the ether linkage, or the thioether linkage.

[0370] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-368, wherein the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through an amide or ester linkage.

[0371] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-368, wherein the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through a thiourea group.

[0372] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-368, wherein the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer by reaction of a maleimide on the dendrimer with a reactive group on the biologically active molecule.

[0373] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-368, wherein the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer through a covalent bond.

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[0374] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-373, wherein the biologically active molecule bonded to the dendrimer is selected from the group consisting of methotrexate, 6-mercaptopurine, 5-fluorouracil, paclitaxel, cyclosporin A, and ganciclovir.

[0375] The transport molecule of any of paragraphs 349-373, wherein the biologically active molecule bonded to the dendrimer is a drug for the treatment of a mammalian condition.

[0376] A pharmaceutical formulation, comprising the transport molecule of paragraph 375 in combination with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

[0377] A method of increasing the effectiveness of a drug, comprising administering the pharmaceutical formulation of paragraph 376 to a human or an animal.

[0378] A method of increasing transport of a biologically active compound across a biological membrane, comprising: contacting a biological membrane with a transport molecule according to any of paragraphs 349-373, wherein the transport molecule comprising the biologically active compound is transported across the biological membrane at a rate greater than the biologically active compound is transported across the biological membrane when the biologically active compound is not bonded to the dendrimer of the transport molecule.

[0379] A dendrimer, comprising at least two branch groups and two or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or more ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or more thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof, wherein at least two of the two or more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof are borne at the end of the at least two branch groups.

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[0380] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least two branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0381] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one tetravalent atom bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0382] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer comprises a first tetravalent atom and a second tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom and the second tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0383] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer comprises a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, and a third tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, and the third tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected

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ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

[0384] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer comprises a first tetravalent atom, a second tetravalent atom, a third tetravalent atom, and a fourth tetravalent atom, wherein the first tetravalent atom, the second tetravalent atom, the third tetravalent atom, and the fourth tetravalent atom are each bonded to at least three branch groups that bear terminal guanidine groups, terminal protonated guanidine groups, terminal protected guanidine groups, terminal amidine groups, terminal protonated amidine groups, terminal protected amidine groups, terminal ureido groups, terminal protonated ureido groups, terminal protected ureido groups, terminal thioureido groups, terminal protonated thioureido groups, or terminal protected thioureido groups.

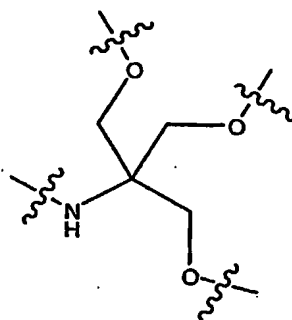
[0385] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer possesses a degree of symmetry such that each of the guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; each of the amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; each of the ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or each of the thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof is in an identical chemical environment when each of the guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; each of the amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; each of the ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or each of the thioureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof is either neutrally charged or is protonated.

[0386] The dendrimer of any of paragraphs 379-385, wherein the dendrimer comprises amide bonds but does not comprise any peptide linkages.

[0387] The dendrimer of any of paragraphs 379-386, wherein the dendrimer comprises 3, 6, 9, or 12 guanidine groups, protonated guanidine groups, protected guanidine groups, amidine groups, protonated amidine groups, protected amidine groups, ureido groups, protonated ureido groups, protected ureido groups, thioureido groups, protonated thioureido groups, or protected thioureido groups.

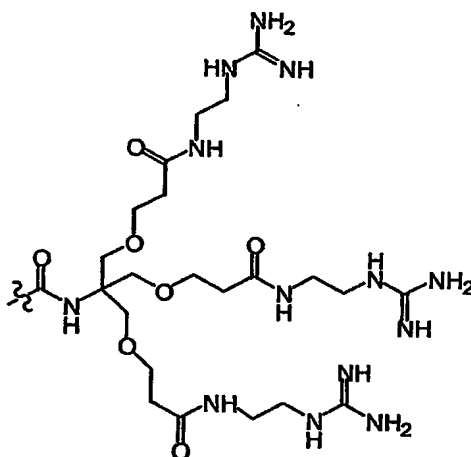
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[0388] The dendrimer of any of paragraphs 379-387, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one residue of tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one group of formula I



I.

[0389] The dendrimer of paragraph 388, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one group of formula II or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula II



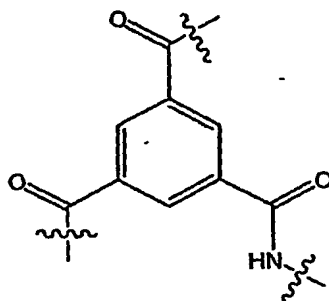
II.

[0390] The dendrimer of paragraph 389, wherein the dendrimer comprises one, two, three, or four groups of formula II or protonated or protected forms of the group of formula II.

[0391] The dendrimer of paragraph 389, wherein the dendrimer comprises one, two, three, or four groups of formula I.

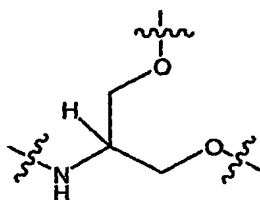
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[0392] The dendrimer of any of paragraphs 379-391, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one group having the formula III



III.

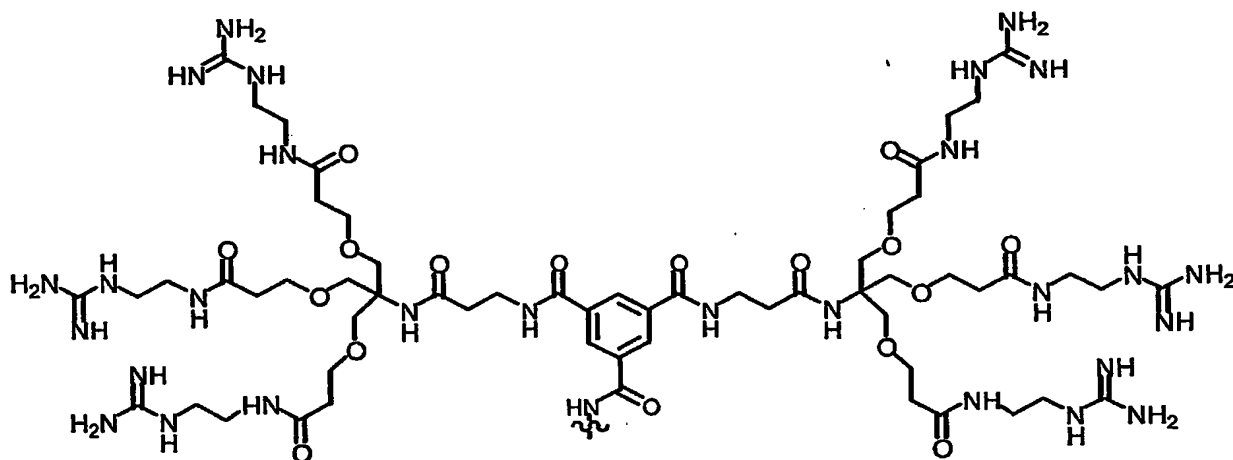
[0393] The dendrimer of any of paragraphs 379-392, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one group having the formula IV



IV.

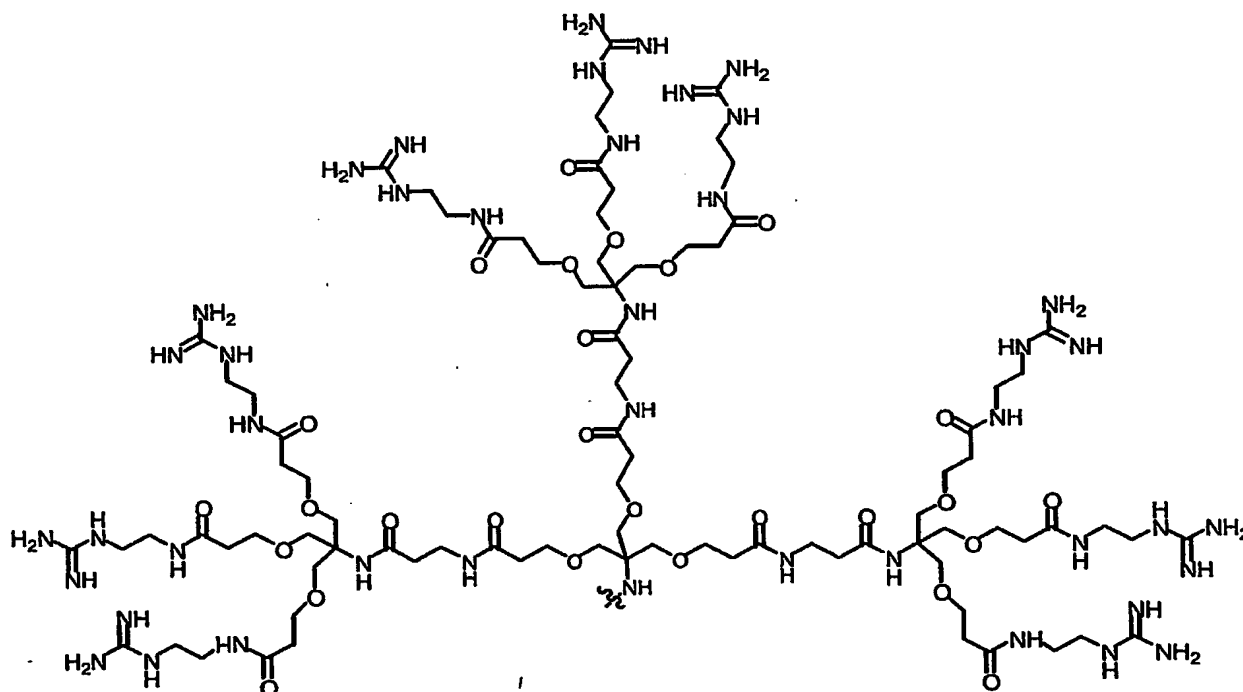
[0394] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer comprises a group of formula V or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula V

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V.

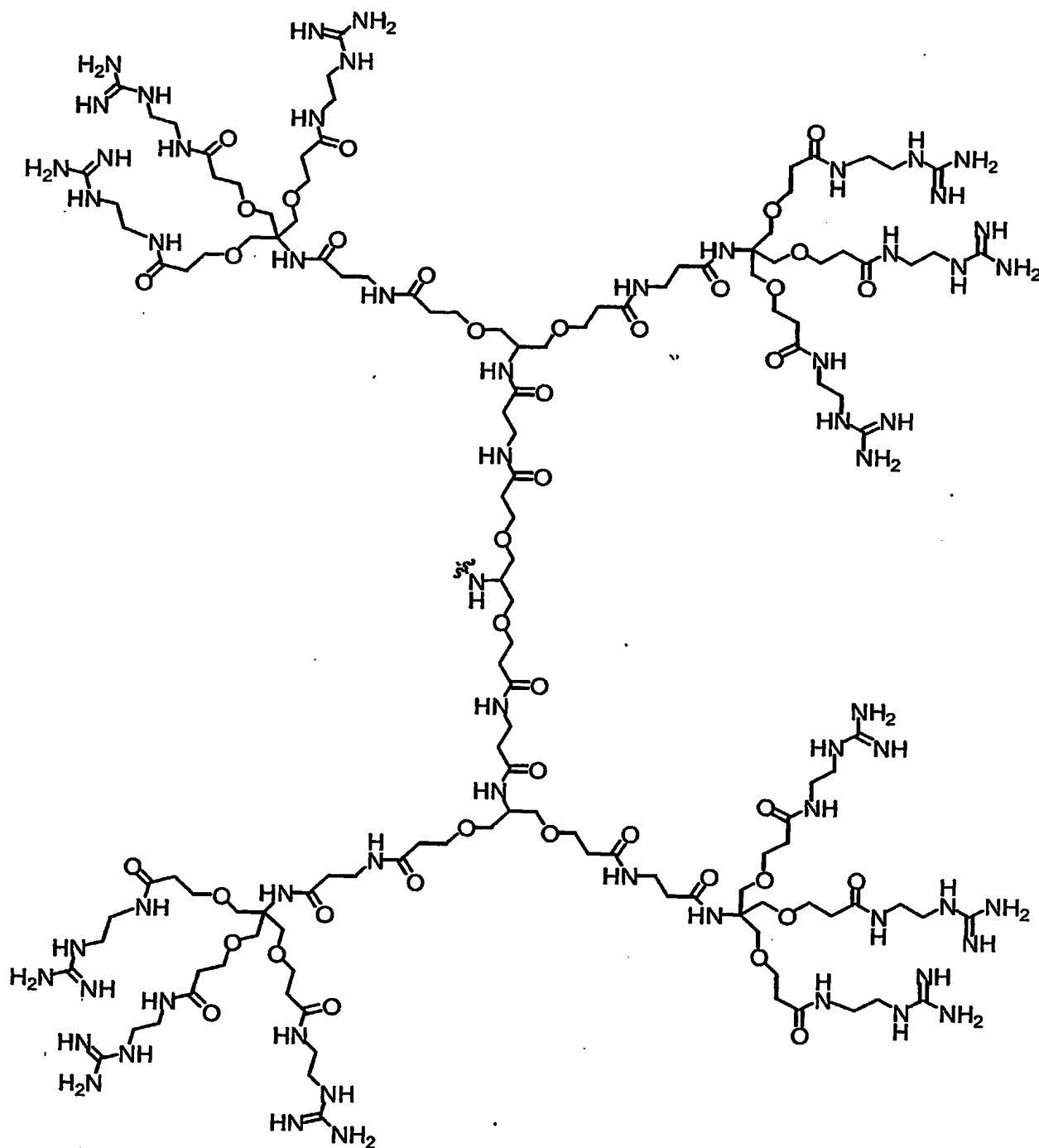
[0395] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer comprises a group of formula VI or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula VI



VI.

[0396] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer comprises a group of formula VII or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula VII

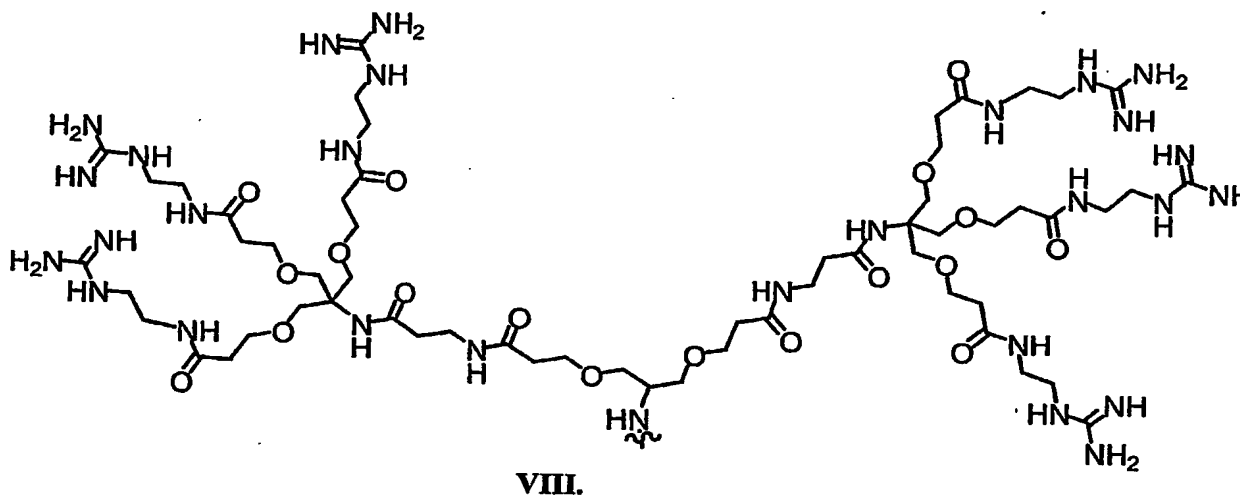
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VII.

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[0397] The dendrimer of paragraph 379, wherein the dendrimer comprises a group of formula **VIII** or a protonated or a protected form of the group of formula **VIII**



[0398] The dendrimer of any of paragraphs 379-397, further comprising a detection molecule bonded to the dendrimer.

[0399] The dendrimer of paragraph 398, wherein the detection molecule is fluorescein.

[0400] A method of measuring the uptake of a dendrimer in a cell, comprising administering the dendrimer of paragraph 399 to a human, an animal, or a plant.

[0401] A method for administering a pharmaceutical agent to a subject, comprising: coadministering the dendrimer of any of paragraphs 379-397 and the pharmaceutical agent to the subject.

[0402] The method of administering a pharmaceutical agent to a subject of paragraph 401, wherein the dendrimer is bonded to the pharmaceutical agent.

[0403] The method of paragraph 402, wherein the subject is a human.

[0404] The method of paragraph 402, wherein the subject is a cell.

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[0405] The method of paragraph 402, wherein the pharmaceutical agent is selected from the group consisting of methotrexate, 6-mercaptopurine, 5-fluorouracil, paclitaxel, cyclosporin A, and ganciclovir.

[0406] A method for increasing the bioavailability of a drug, comprising: bonding the drug to a dendrimer according to any of paragraphs 379-397.

[0407] The method of paragraph 406, wherein the drug is bonded to the dendrimer through reaction with a peptide lining agent or a non-peptide linking group on the dendrimer.

[0408] A method of synthesizing a dendrimer, comprising:

(a) reacting a bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane or a tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane with a reactant selected from the group consisting of acrylonitrile, an acrylic ester, an α -haloester, and a cyclic anhydride and then esterifying to produce a diester comprising two ester groups and an amine group or a triester comprising three ester groups and an amine group;

(b) protecting the amine group of the diester or the triester to produce a protected diester comprising two ester groups and a protected amine group or a protected triester comprising three ester groups and a protected amine group;

(c) saponifying the two ester groups of the protected diester or the three ester groups of the protected triester to produce a dicarboxylic acid comprising two carboxylic acid groups and the protected amine group or a tricarboxylic acid comprising three tricarboxylic acid groups and the protected amine group;

(d) reacting

(i) each of the carboxylic acid groups of the dicarboxylic acid or the tricarboxylic acid with a diaminoalkane, a diaminoalkene, a diaminocycloalkane, or a diaminocycloalkene to produce a product that comprises two or three amide-containing branches, wherein each of the amide-containing branches produced by the reaction of the carboxylic acid groups with the diaminoalkane, the diaminoalkene, the

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diaminocycloalkane, or the diaminocycloalkene comprises a protected amino group, wherein one of the amino groups of the diaminoalkane, the diaminoalkene, the diaminocycloalkane, or the diaminocycloalkene is protected; or

(ii) each of the carboxylic acid groups of the dicarboxylic acid or the tricarboxylic acid with a hydroxyaminoalkane, a hydroxyaminoalkene, a hydroxyaminocycloalkane, or a hydroxyaminocycloalkene to produce a product that comprises two or three ester-containing branches, wherein each of the ester-containing branches produced by the reaction of the carboxylic acid groups with the hydroxyaminoalkane, the hydroxyaminoalkene, the hydroxyaminocycloalkane, or the hydroxyaminocycloalkene comprises a protected amino group, wherein the amino group of the hydroxyaminoalkane, the hydroxyaminoalkene, the hydroxyaminocycloalkane, or the hydroxyaminocycloalkene is protected;

(e) selectively deprotecting the protected amino groups at the end of the amide-containing or ester-containing branches introduced in (d) to produce a product with deprotected amine groups; and

(f) guanidinylating, amidinylating, ureidolating, or thioureidolating the product with deprotected amine groups produced after selectively deprotecting in (e) to produce the dendrimer.

[0409] The method of paragraph 408, wherein (a) comprises reacting the tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane with acrylonitrile.

[0410] The method of paragraph 409, wherein the tris(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane is tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane.

[0411] The method of paragraph 408, wherein (a) comprises reacting the bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane with acrylonitrile.

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[0412] The method of paragraph 411, wherein the bis(hydroxyalkyl)aminoalkane is bis(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane.

[0413] The method of paragraph 408, wherein the amine group of the diester or the triester is protected in (b) with a benzyloxycarbonyl group.

[0414] The method of paragraph 408, wherein (d) further comprises reacting each of the two carboxylic acid groups of the dicarboxylic acid or each of the three carboxylic acid groups of the tricarboxylic acid with a mono-protected 1,2-diaminoethane.

[0415] The method of paragraph 414, wherein the mono-protected 1,2-diaminoethane is protected with a *t*-butoxycarbonyl group.

[0416] The method of paragraph 408, wherein (f) further comprises guanidinylation the product produced after selectively deprotecting in (e) using *N,N'*-di(*t*-butoxycarbonyl)-*N''*-triflylguanidine.

[0417] The method of paragraph 408, further comprising (g) deprotecting the amine group that was protected in (b).

[0418] The method of paragraph 417, further comprising (h) coupling the product of (g) with a compound comprising a carboxylic acid and a protected amine group to produce a dendrimer with a protected amine group.

[0419] The method of paragraph 418, wherein the compound comprising a carboxylic acid and a protected amine group of (h) is a benzyloxycarbonyl protected β -alanine.

[0420] The method of paragraph 418, further comprising (i) removing the protecting group from the protected amine group introduced in step (h).

[0421] The method of paragraph 420, wherein removing the protecting group in (i) comprises hydrogenating the dendrimer with the protected amine group produced in step (h).

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[0422] A method for producing a transport molecule or a dendrimer that includes a detection molecule, comprising:

- (j) following the method of paragraph 420 to produce a dendrimer;
- (k) optionally reacting the dendrimer with one or more linking molecules to produce a dendrimer comprising a linking group;
- (l) reacting a first reactive group of a biologically active molecule or a first reactive group of a detection molecule with the dendrimer of (j) or the linking group of the dendrimer of (k) to produce a transport molecule comprising at least two protected guanidine groups, amidine groups, ureido groups or thioureido groups or a dendrimer comprising a detection molecule and at least two protected guanidine groups, amidine groups, ureido groups or thioureido groups and
- (m) removing the protecting groups from the protected guanidine groups, amidine groups, ureido groups, or thioureido groups.

[0423] A dendrimer or a transport molecule produced by the method of any of paragraphs 408-422.

[0424] A kit, the kit comprising: a first dendrimer comprising a dendrimer according to any of paragraphs 379-399; and at least a first linking molecule.

[0425] The kit according to paragraph 424, further comprising a second dendrimer comprising a dendrimer according to any of paragraphs 379-399, wherein the second dendrimer is different from the first dendrimer.

[0426] The kit according to paragraph 425, further comprising at least a second linking molecule that is different from the at least first linking molecule.

[0427] The kit according to paragraph 424, wherein the dendrimer is tethered to a linking group.

[0428] A combinatorial library, comprising: a plurality of dendrimers according to any of paragraphs 379-399.

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[0429] A combinatorial library, comprising: a plurality of transport molecules according to any of paragraphs 349-375.

[0430] A method for synthesizing a dendrimer, comprising:

(a) guanidinylation, amidinylation, ureidolation, or thioureidolation at least two branches of a core molecule comprising the at least two branches and at least two free amine groups to produce the dendrimer, wherein each of the at least two branches of the core molecule comprises at least one of the at least two free amine groups prior to being guanidinated, amidinated, ureidolated, or thioureidolated.

[0431] The method of paragraph 430, wherein the core molecule further comprises at least one protected amine group prior to being guanidinated, amidinated, ureidolated, or thioureidolated.

[0432] The method of paragraph 430, wherein the core molecule comprises at least three branches and at least three free amine groups prior to being guanidinated, amidinated, ureidolated, or thioureidolated, wherein each of the at least three branches of the core molecule comprises at least one of the at least three free amine groups prior to being guanidinated, amidinated, ureidolated, or thioureidolated, and further wherein each of the at least three branches is guanidinated during the guanidination, is amidinated during amidination, ureidolated during ureidolation, or is thioureidolated during thioureidolation.

[0433] The method of paragraph 432, wherein the core molecule further comprises at least one protected amine group prior to being guanidinated, amidinated, ureidolated, or thioureidolated.

[0434] The method of any of paragraphs 430-433, wherein each of the at least two or the at least three branches of the core molecule comprises the same structure.

[0435] The method of paragraph 434, wherein each of the at least two or the at least three branches of the core molecule is in an identical chemical environment.

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[0436] The method of paragraph 434, wherein the core molecule is guanidinylated to produce the dendrimer, and the dendrimer comprises protected guanidine groups after being guanidinylated.

[0437] The method of paragraph 430, wherein one of the at least two free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of one of the at least two branches of the core molecule and a second of the at least two free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of a second of the at least two branches of the core molecule.

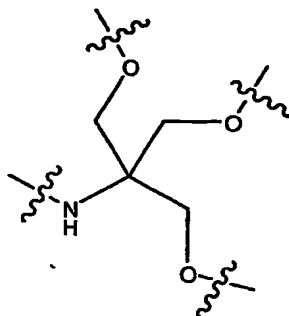
[0438] The method of paragraph 437, wherein each of the at least two branches of the core molecule further comprises an amide bond and the amide is formed by reacting a carboxylic acid group on a precursor of the core molecule with a compound comprising a free amine group and a protected amine group.

[0439] The method of paragraph 432, wherein one of the at least three free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of one of the at least three branches of the core molecule, wherein a second of the at least three free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of a second of the at least three branches of the core molecule, and wherein a third of the at least three free amine groups is bonded to a terminal carbon atom of a third of the at least three branches of the core molecule.

[0440] The method of paragraph 439, wherein each of the at least three branches of the core molecule further comprises an amide bond and the amide is formed by reacting a carboxylic acid group on a precursor of the core molecule with a compound comprising a free amine group and a protected amine group.

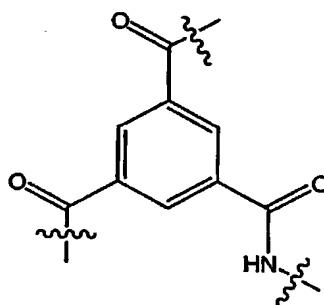
[0441] The method of paragraph 430, wherein the core molecule comprises a group of formula I

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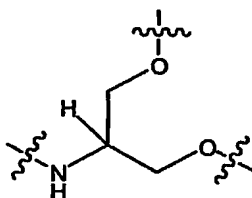
I.

[0442] The method of paragraph 430, wherein the core molecule comprises a group of formula III



III.

[0443] The method of paragraph 430, wherein the core molecule comprises a group of formula IV



IV.

[0444] While the invention has been described in detail with reference to certain preferred embodiments thereof, it will be understood that modifications and variations are within the spirit and scope of that which is described. It is also understood that the invention is not limited to the embodiments set forth herein for

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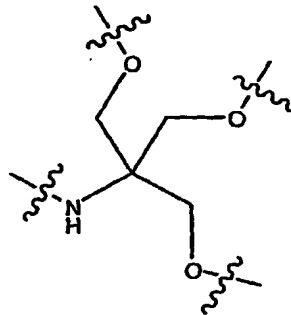
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illustration, but embraces all such forms thereof as come within the scope of the following claims.

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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A transport molecule, comprising: a dendrimer and a
- 2 biologically active molecule, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one guanidine
- 3 group, a salt of at least one guanidine group, at least one protected guanidine group, at
- 4 least one amidine groups, a salt of at least one amidine group, at least one protected
- 5 amidine group, at least one ureido group, at least one protonated ureido group, at least
- 6 one protected ureido group, at least one thioureido group, at least one protonated
- 7 thioureido group, or at least one protected thioureido group and further wherein the
- 8 dendrimer comprises at least one residue of tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane,
- 9 wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one group of formula I

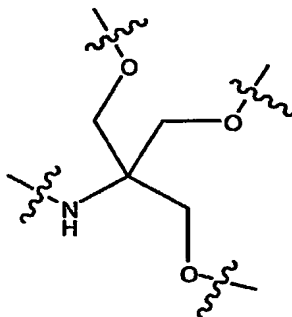


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- 10
- 11
- 12 and still further wherein the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer.

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- 1 2. A dendrimer, comprising at least two branch groups and two or
2 more guanidine groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or amidine
3 groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or more ureido groups, salts
4 thereof, or protected forms thereof; two or more thioureido groups, salts thereof, or
5 protected forms thereof, wherein at least two of the two or more guanidine groups,
6 salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; amidine groups, salts thereof, or protected
7 forms thereof; ureido groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof; or thioureido
8 groups, salts thereof, or protected forms thereof are borne at the end of the at least two
9 branch groups, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one residue of
10 tris(hydroxymethyl)aminomethane, wherein the dendrimer comprises at least one
11 group of formula I

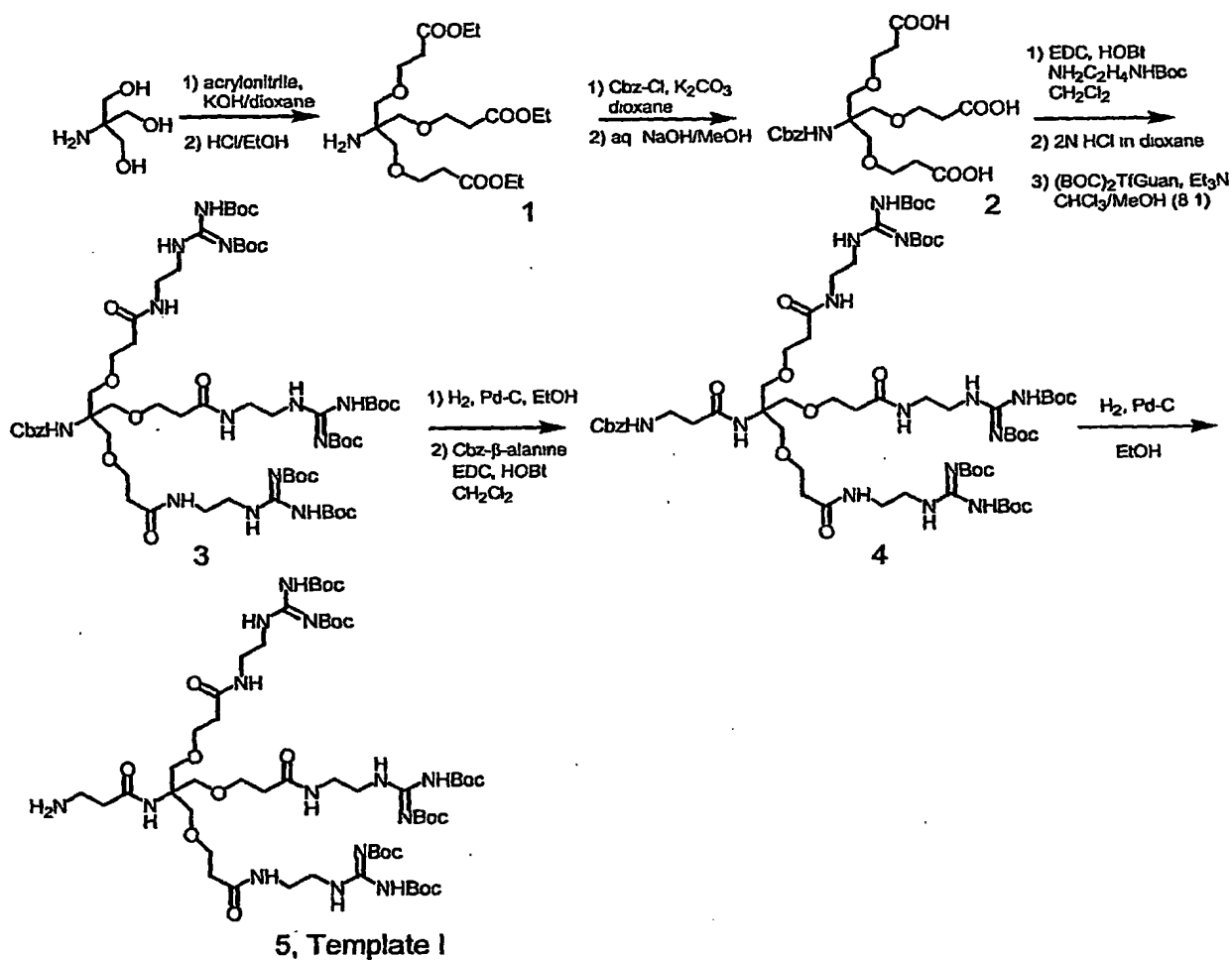


I.

ABSTRACT**DENDRIMERS AS MOLECULAR TRANSLOCATORS**

Transport molecules include a dendrimer and a biologically active molecule. The dendrimer of such transport molecules includes at least one guanidine group, a salt of at least one guanidine group, at least one protected guanidine group, at least one amidine group, at least one protonated amidine group, at least one protected amidine group, at least one ureido group, at least one protonated ureido group, at least one protected ureido group, at least one thiorueido group, at least one protonated thioureido group, or at least one protected thioureido group, and the biologically active molecule is bonded to the dendrimer. A method of increasing the bioavailability of a drug includes bonding the drug to a dendrimer of the invention. A method of measuring the cellular uptake of a dendrimer by a cell includes administering a dendrimer that includes a detection molecule bonded to the dendrimer to a human, an animal, or a plant subject. A method of increasing the transport of a biologically active compound across a biological membrane includes contacting the biological membrane with a transport molecule that includes a dendrimer and the biologically active compound. The biologically active compound is transported across the biological membrane at a rate grater than the biologically active compound is transported across the biological membrane when the biologically active compound is not bonded to the dendrimer of the transport molecule.

Figure 1



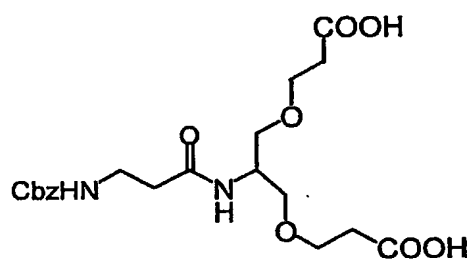
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CCOC(=O)C(COC(=O)CC)C(COC(=O)CC)C(COC(=O)CC)C(=O)CCNC(=O)CCNC(=O)CC

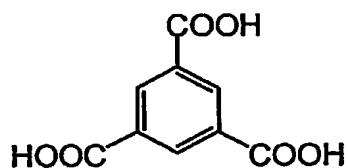
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Figure 2C



8

Figure 2D



9

Figure 3A

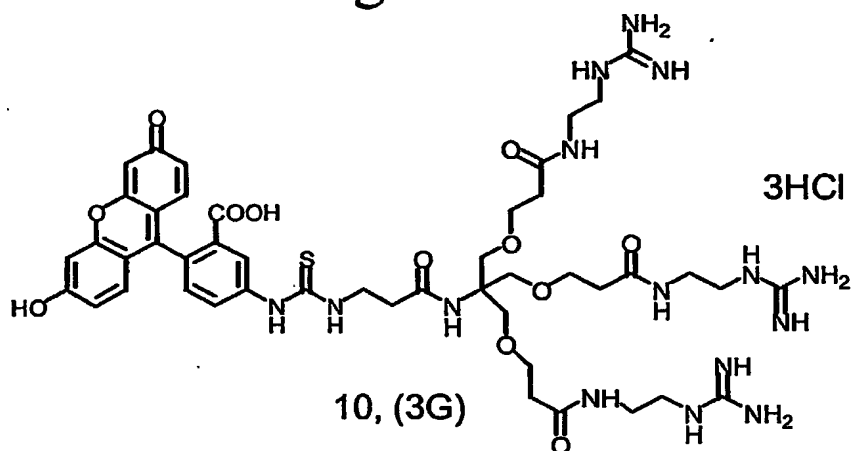
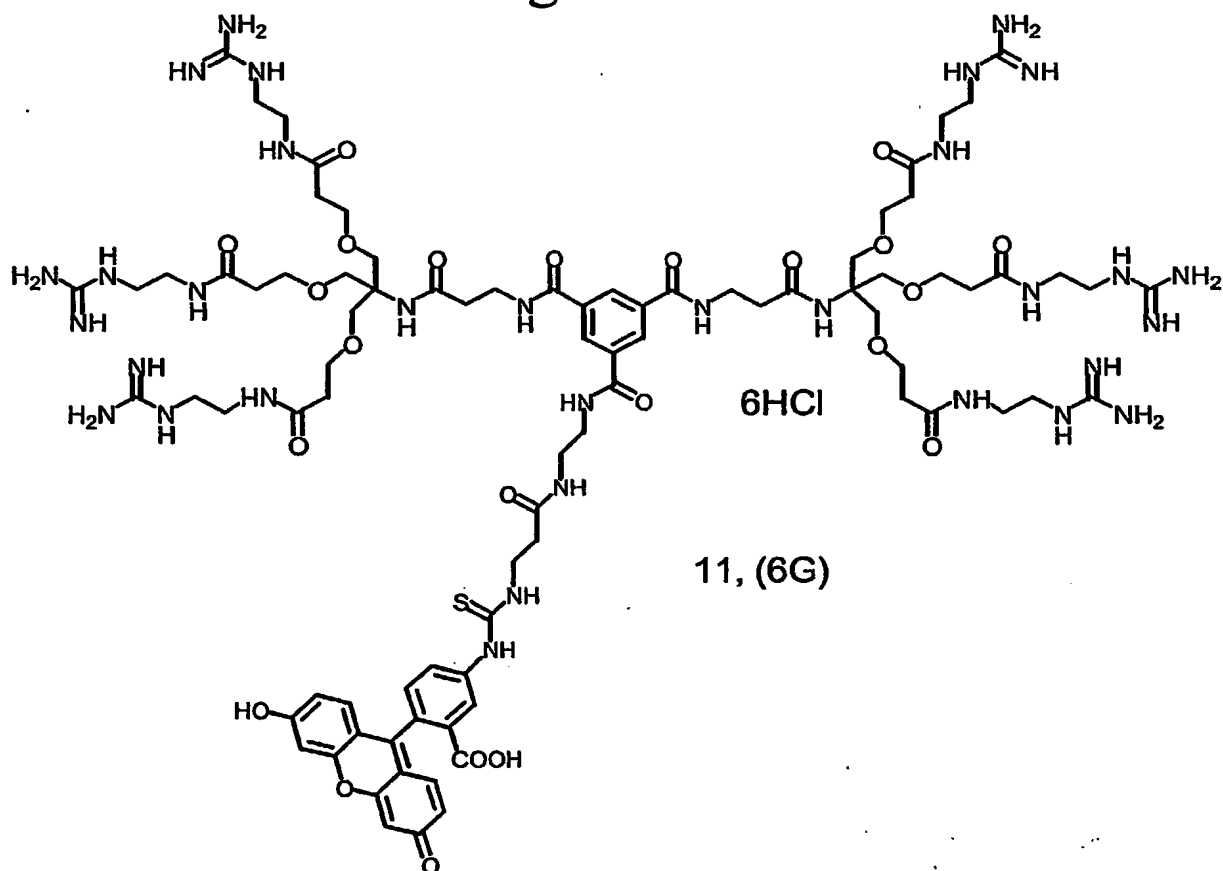


Figure 3B



Chemical structure of compound 12, (9G), showing a complex molecule with multiple guanidino groups and a central core structure. The structure is labeled 12, (9G) and includes a 9HCl salt notation.

Figure 3D

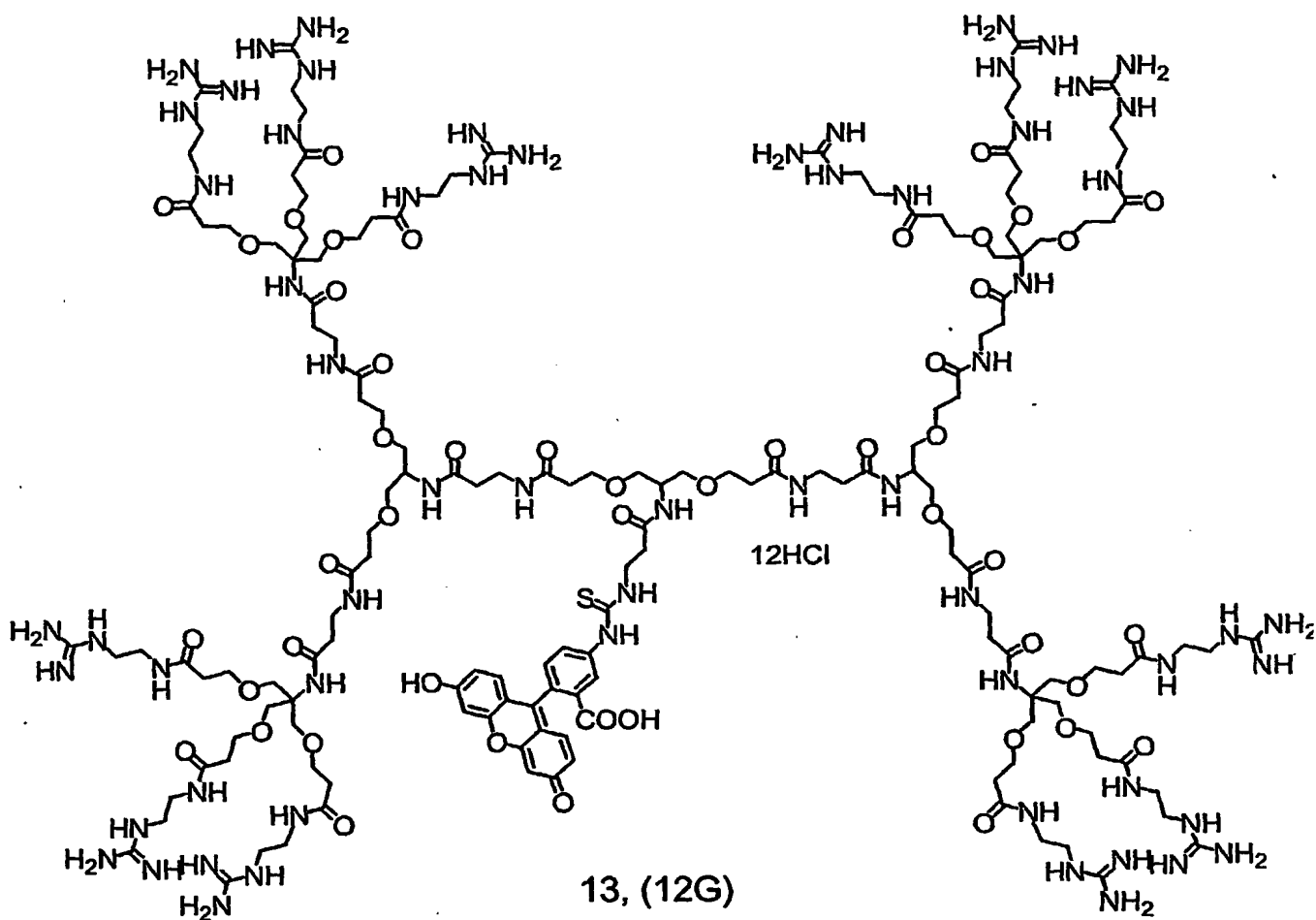


Figure 4A

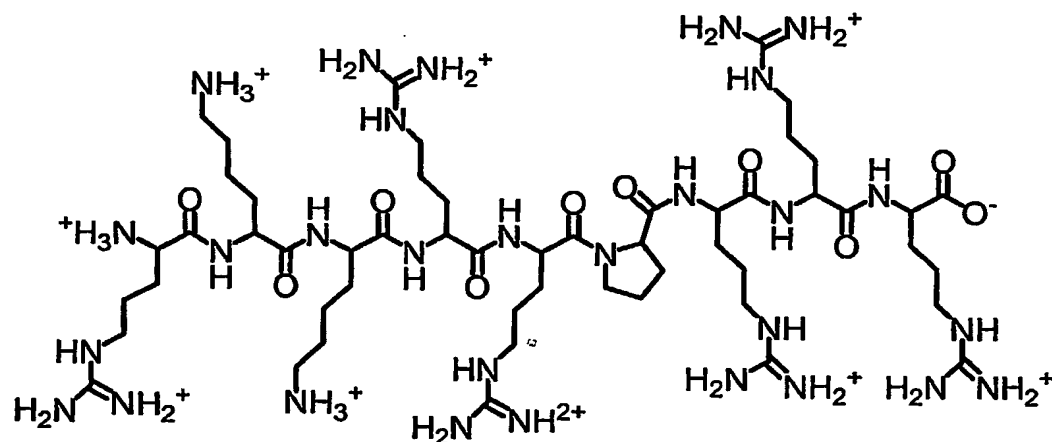
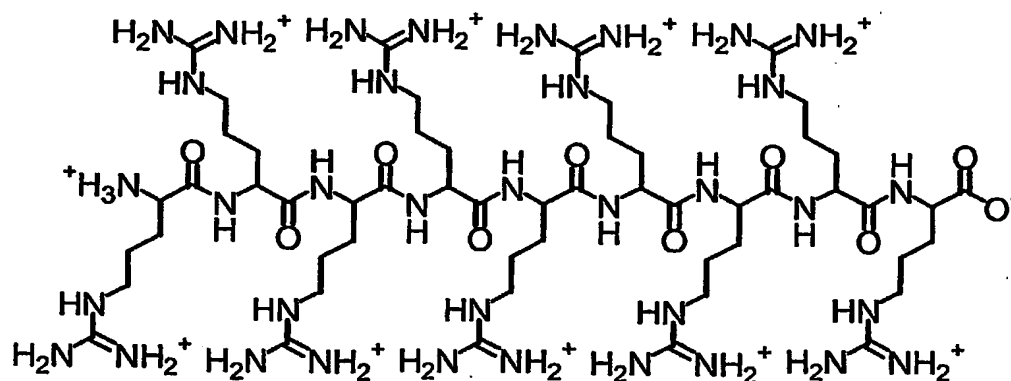
Tat₄₉₋₅₇ (RKKRRPPRR)

Figure 4B



R9 (9-mer of L-Arg))

Figure 5

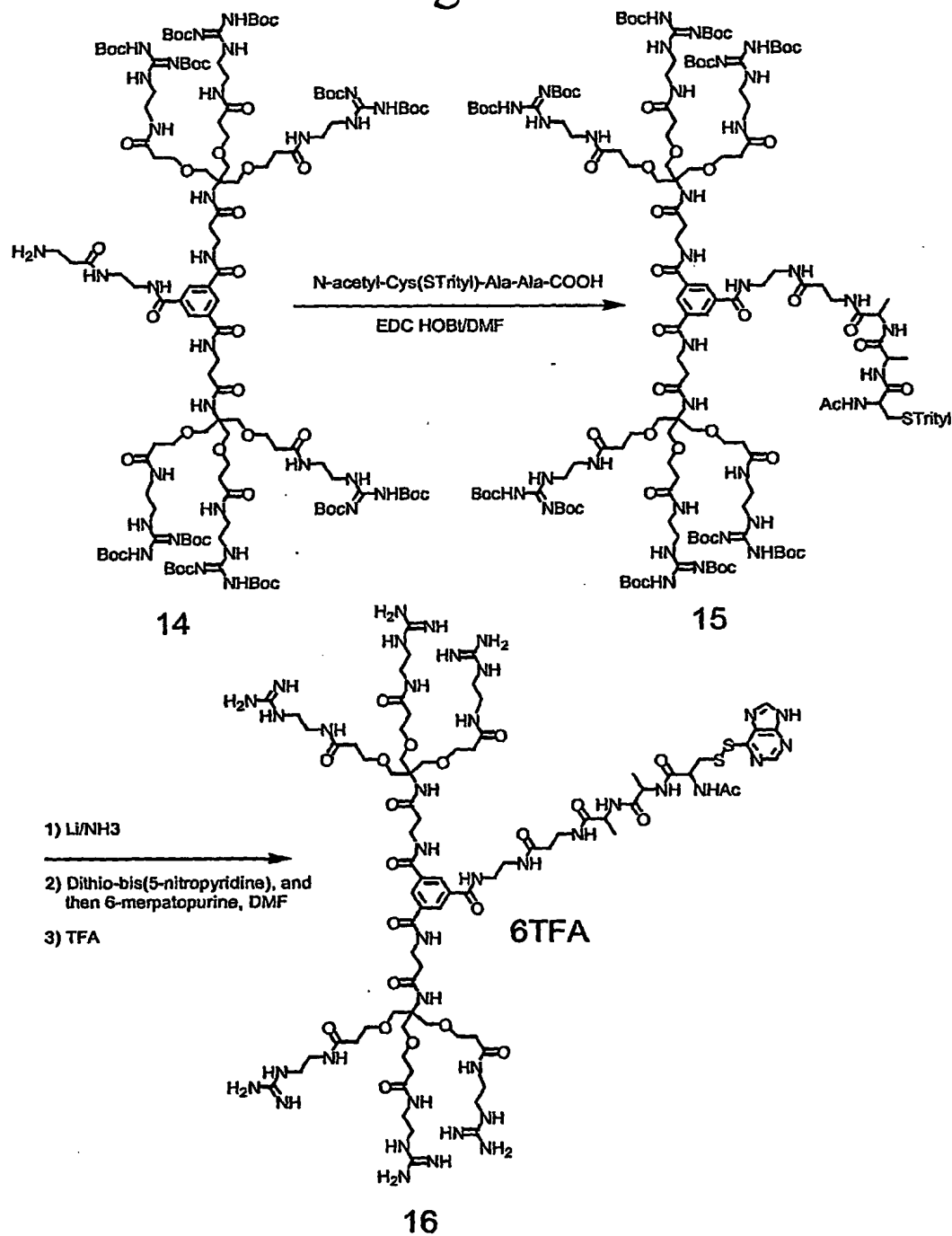


Figure 6

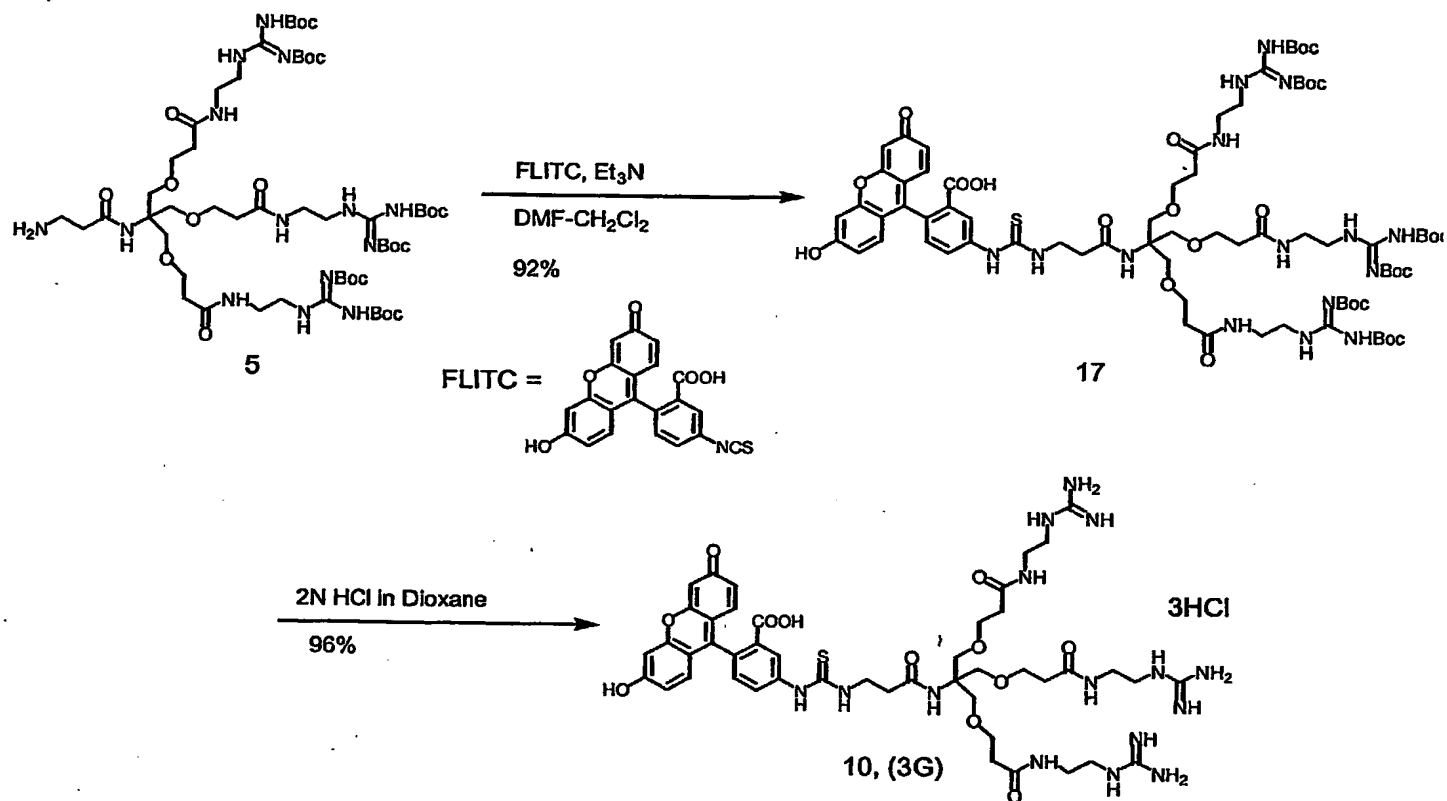


Figure 7

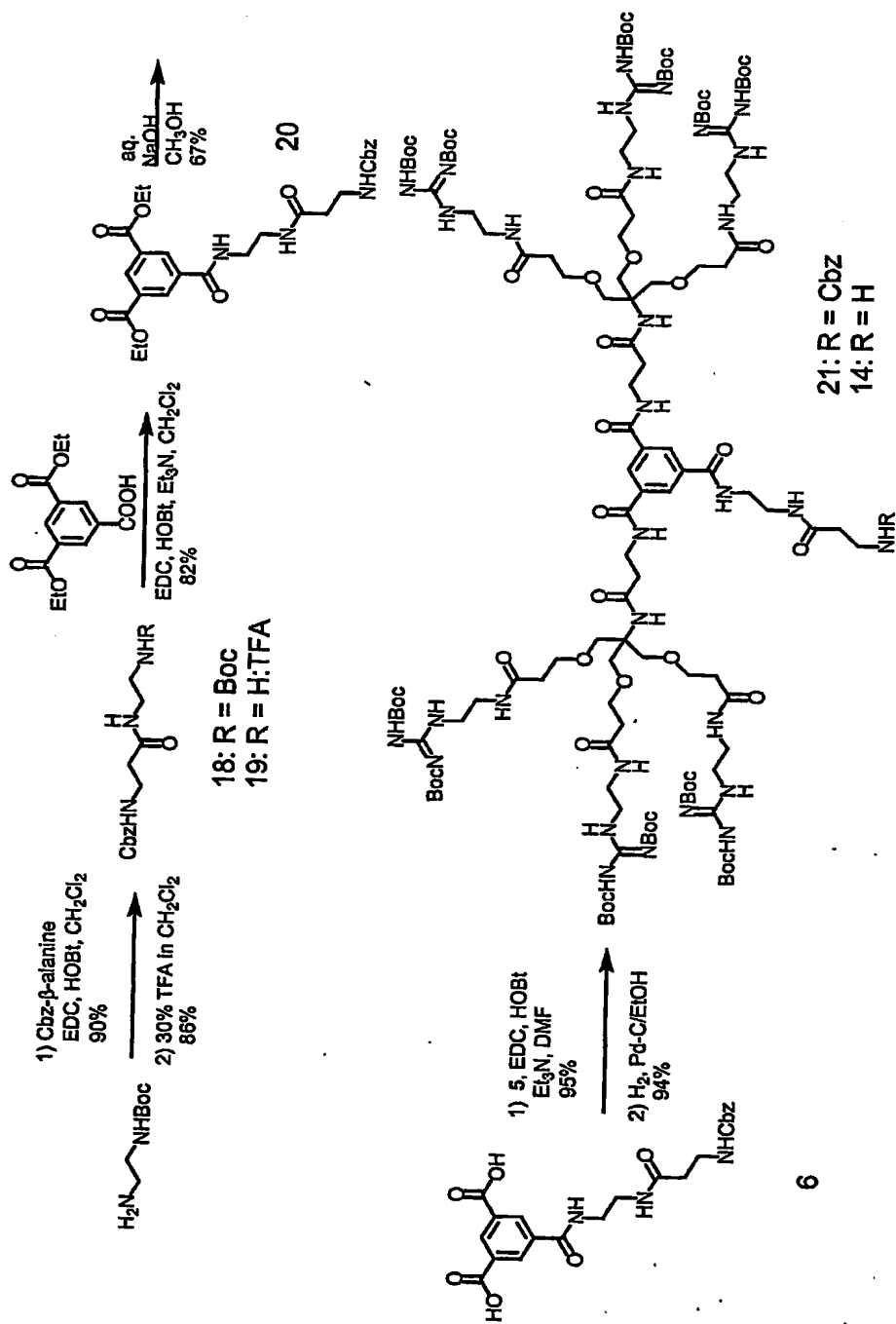


Figure 8

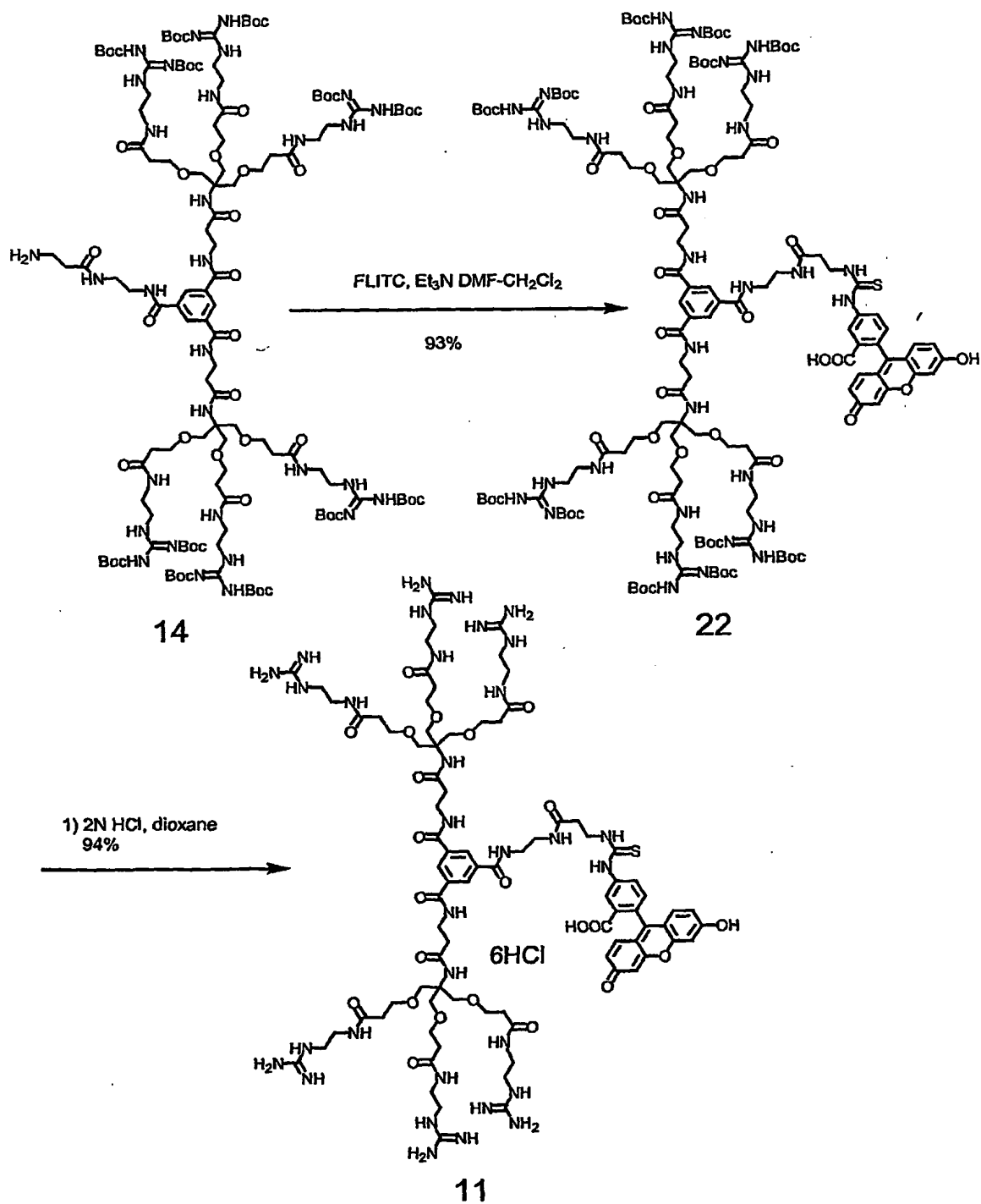


Figure 9

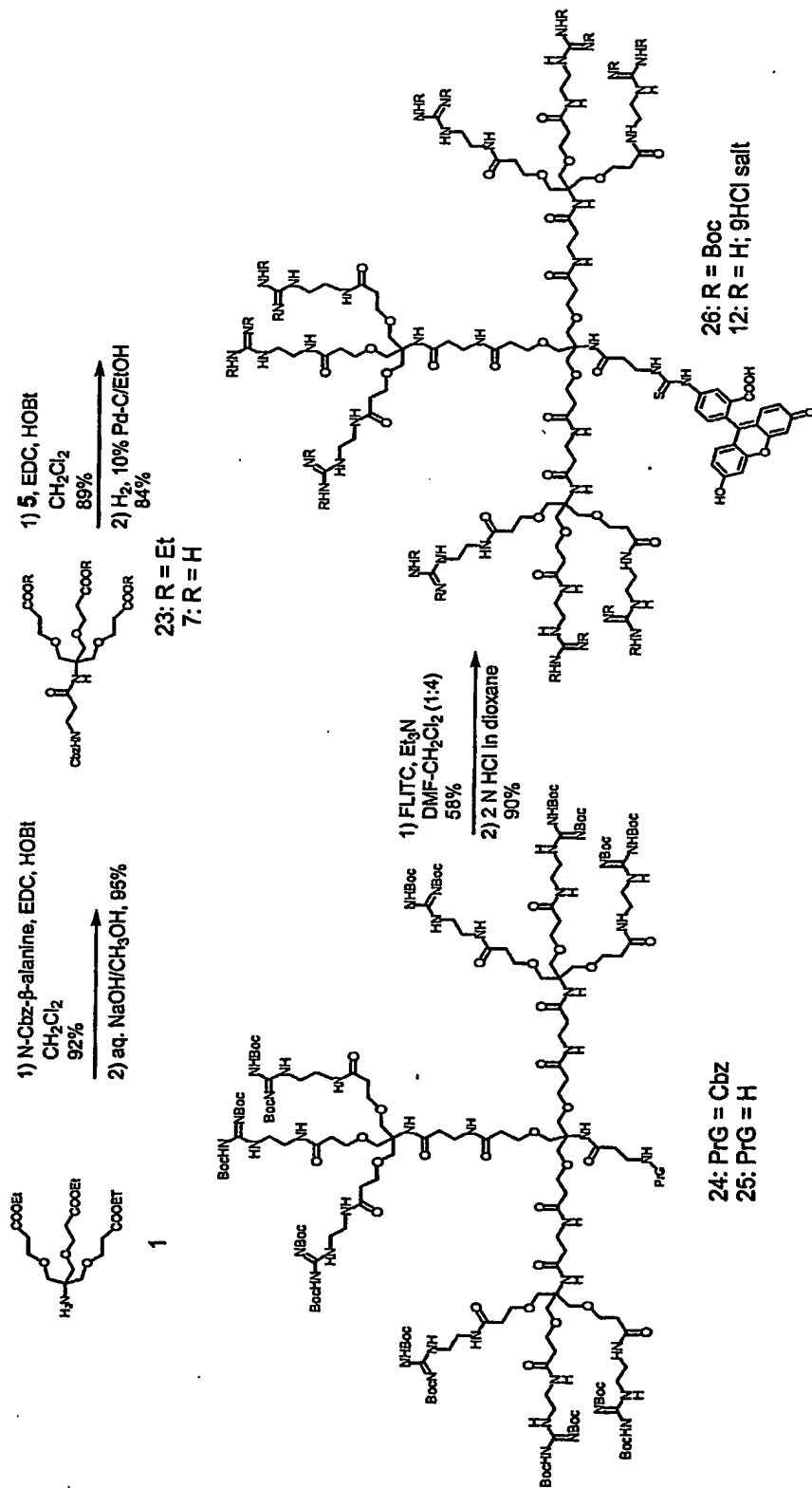


Figure 11

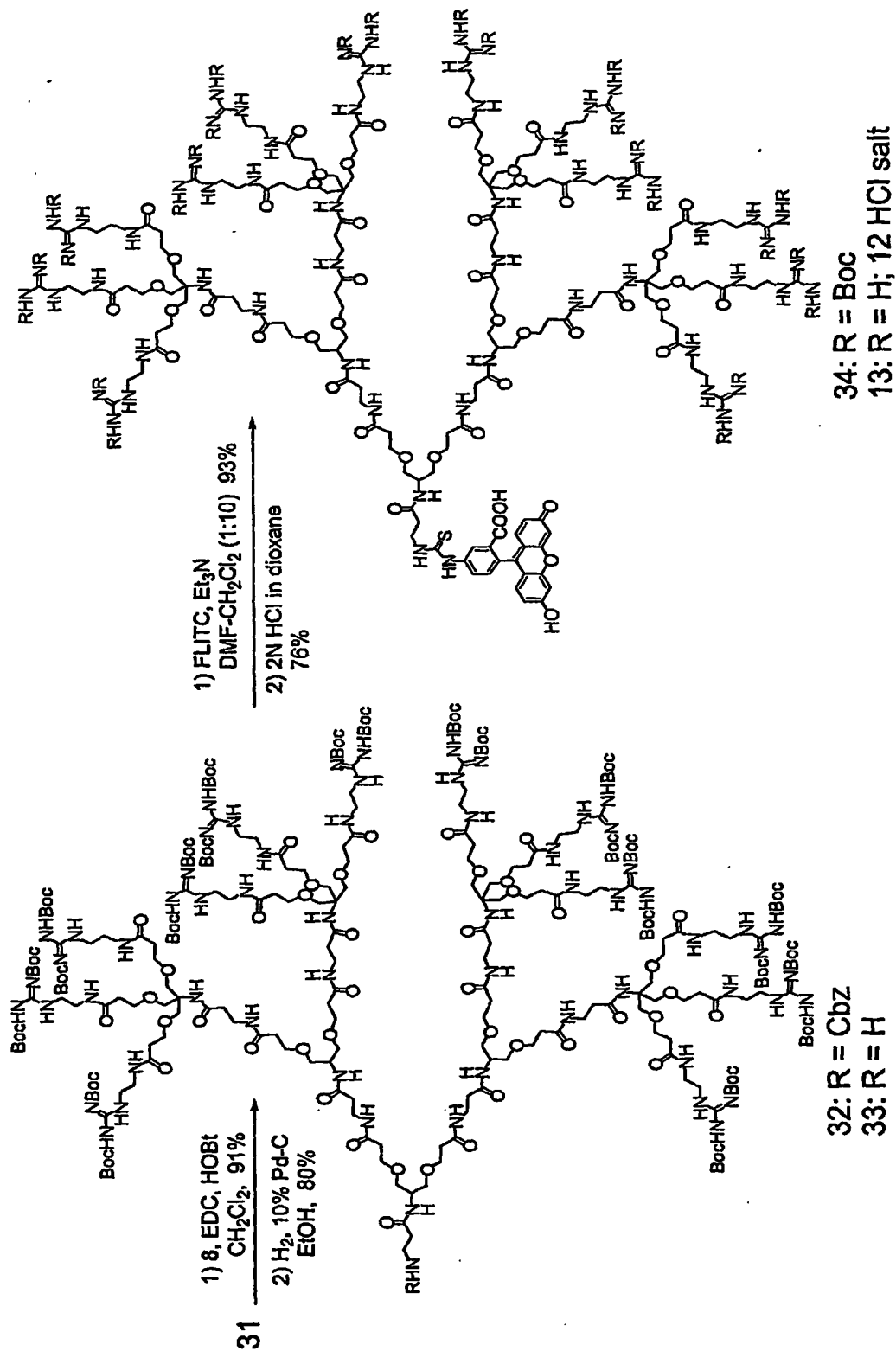
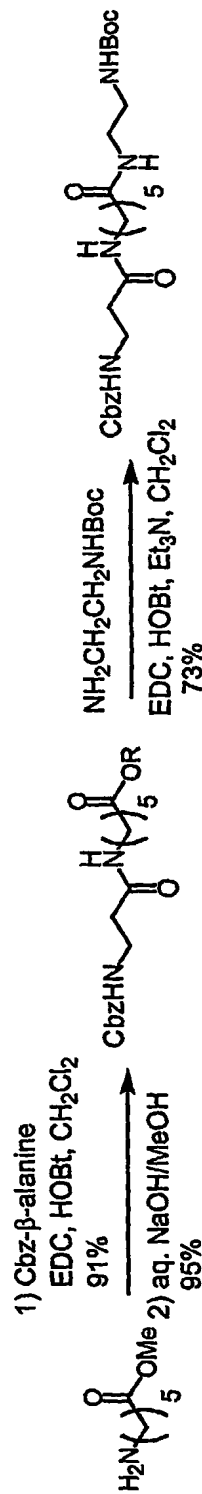
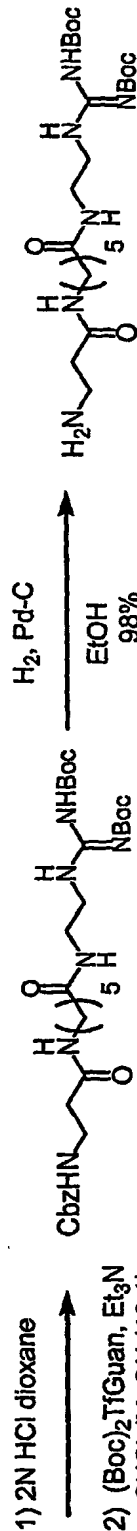


Figure 12



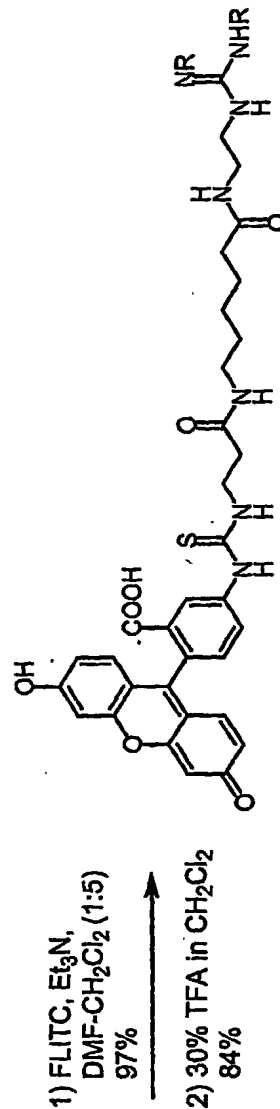
37

35: R = Me
36: R = H



38

39



40: R = Boc

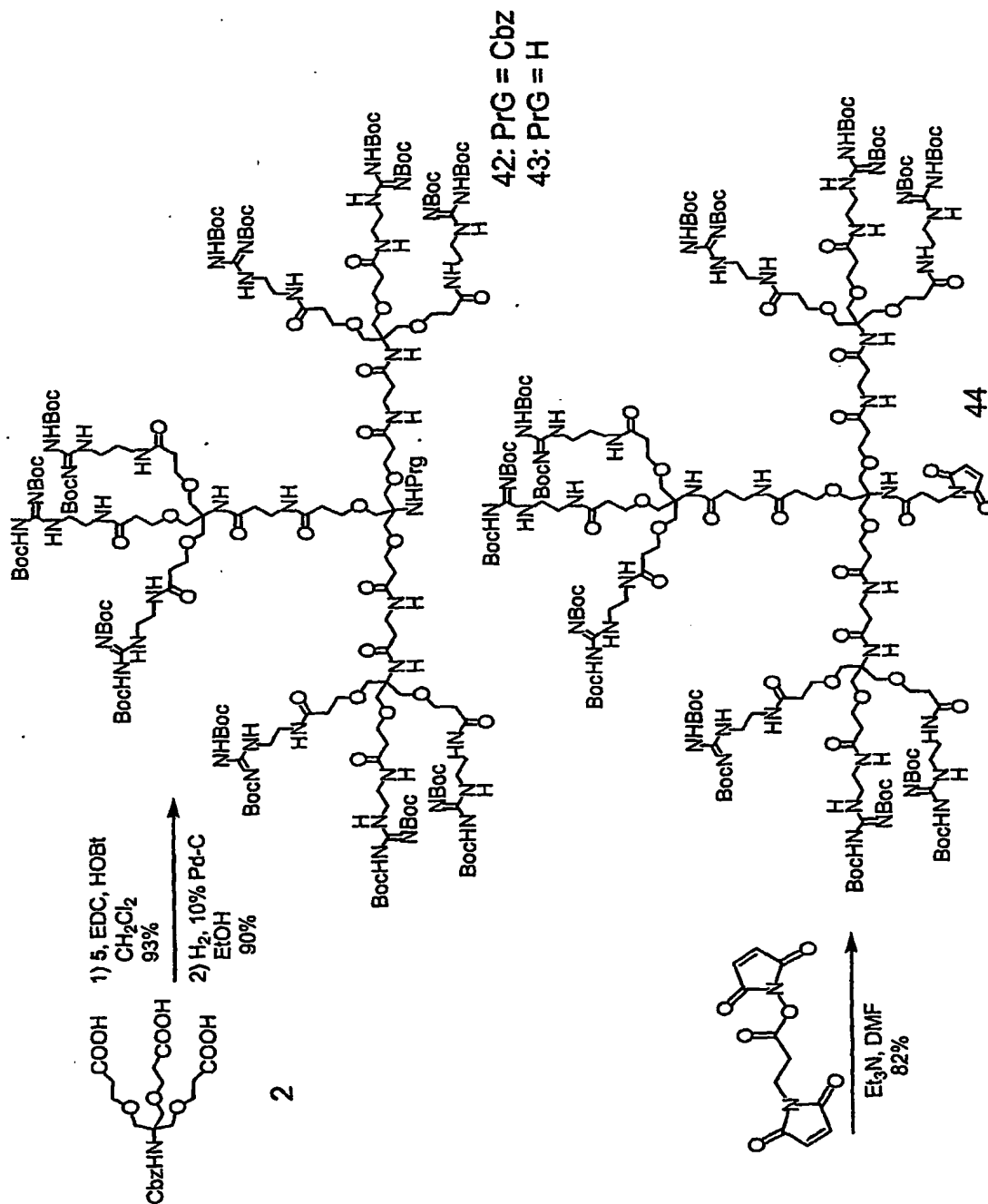
41: R = H, TFA salt

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Figure 13

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Figure 14

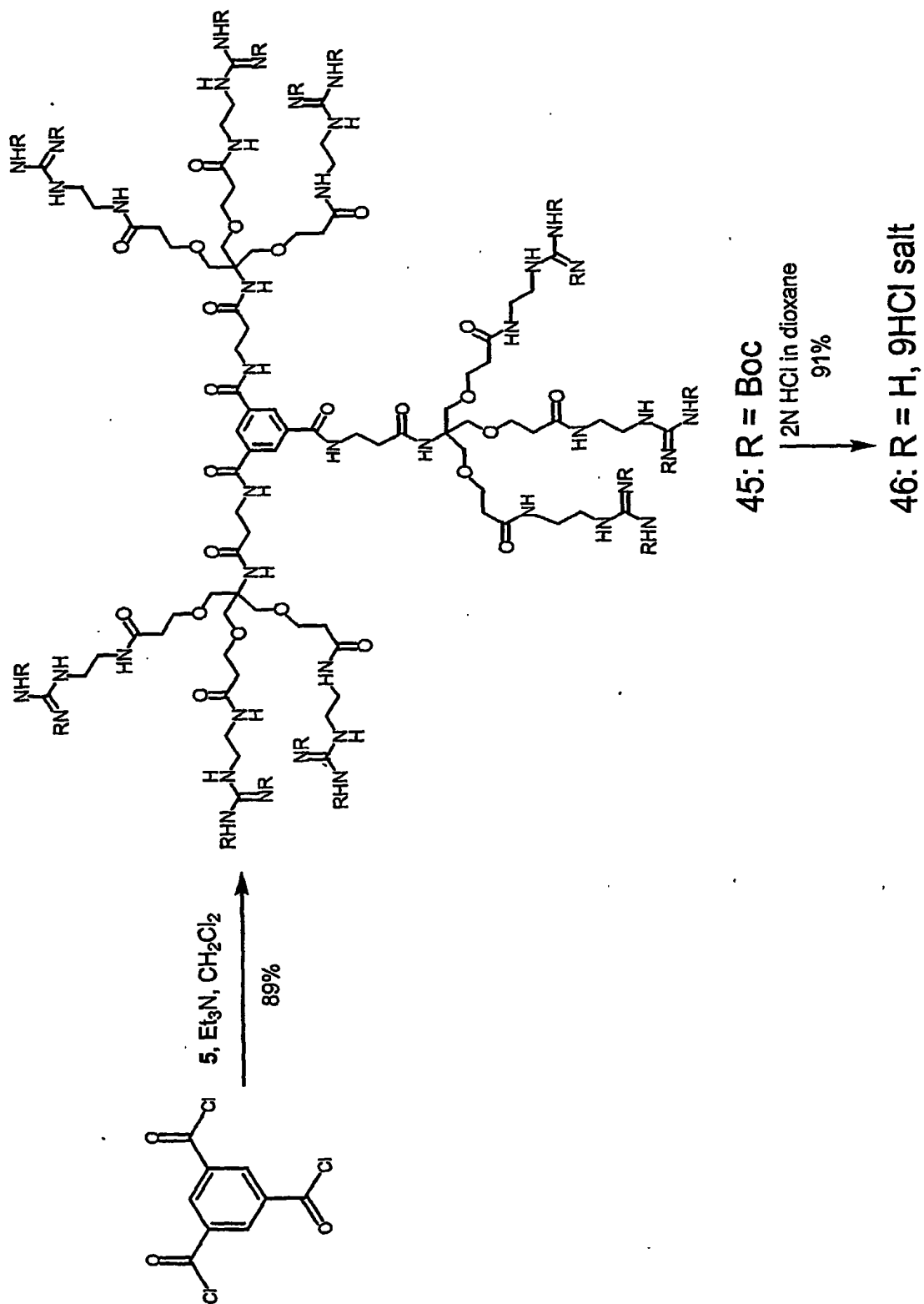


Figure 15

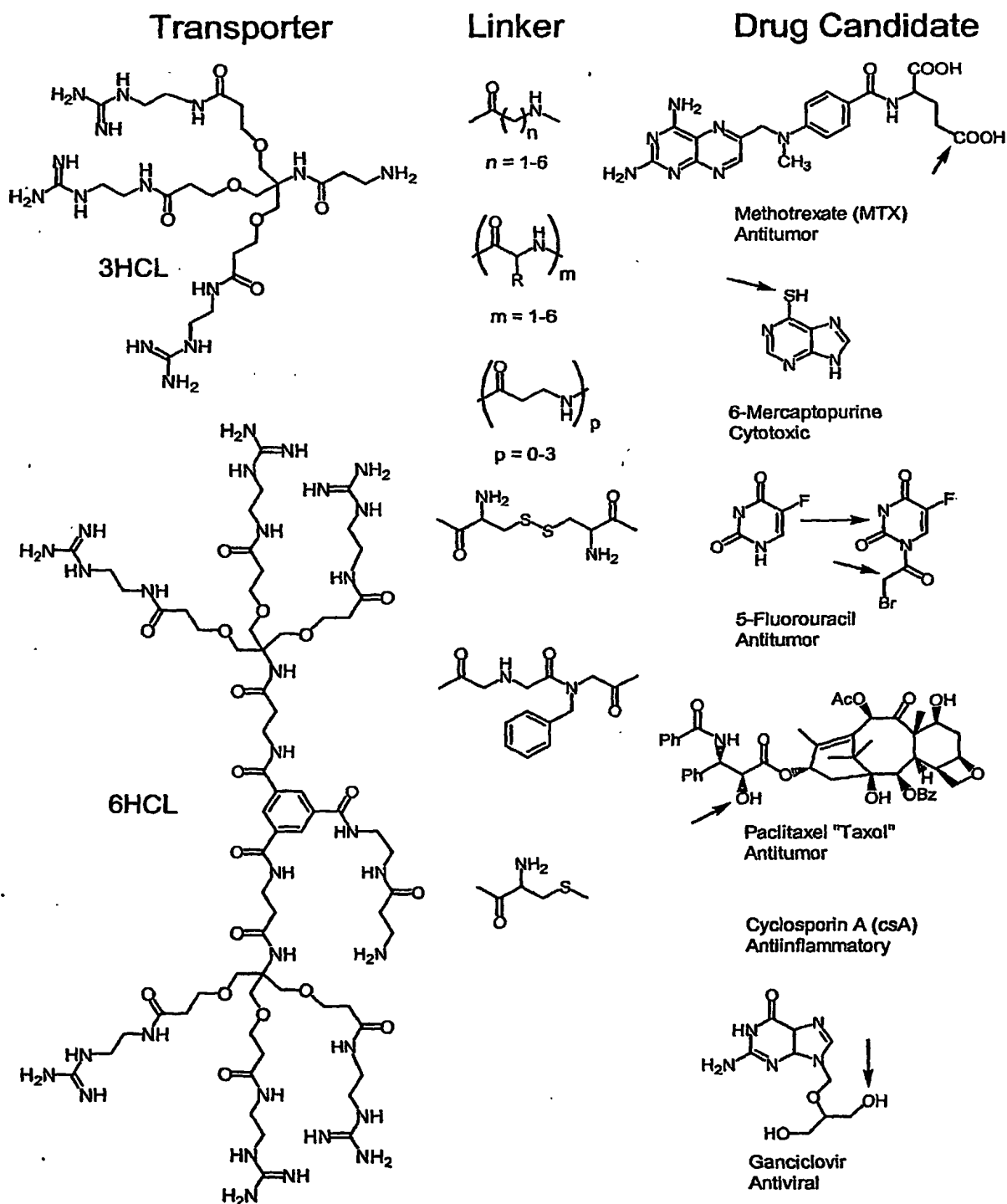


Figure 16A



Figure 16B

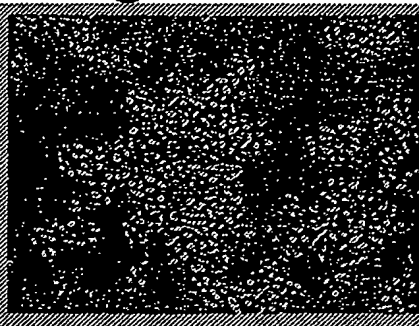


Figure 16C



Figure 16D

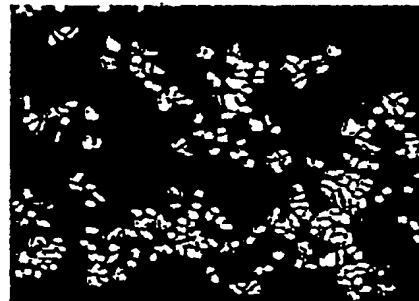


Figure 16E



Figure 16F

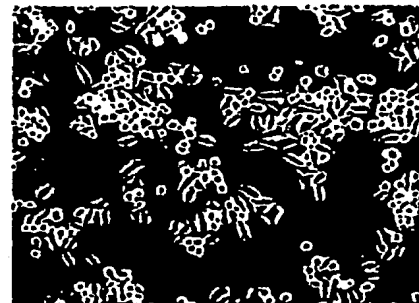


Figure 16G

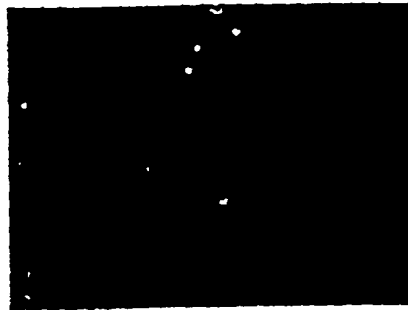


Figure 16H



Figure 16I

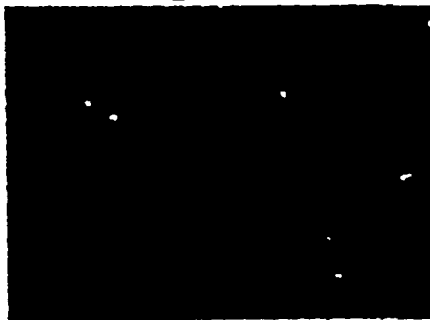


Figure 16J

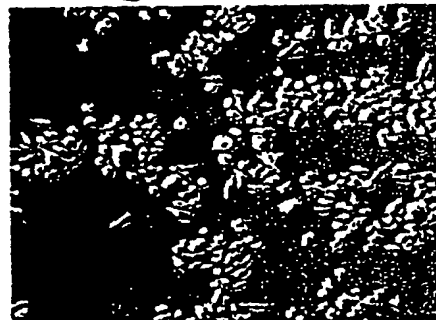


Figure 16K

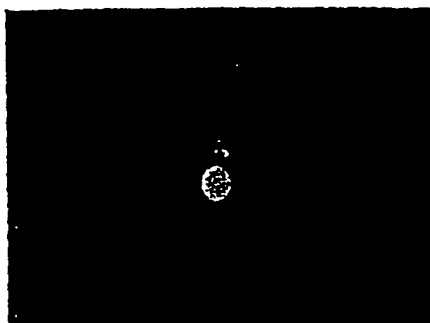


Figure 16L

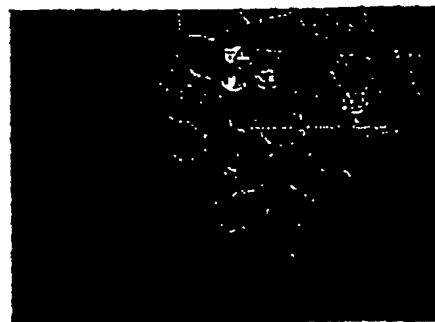


Figure 16M



Figure 16N



Figure 17A

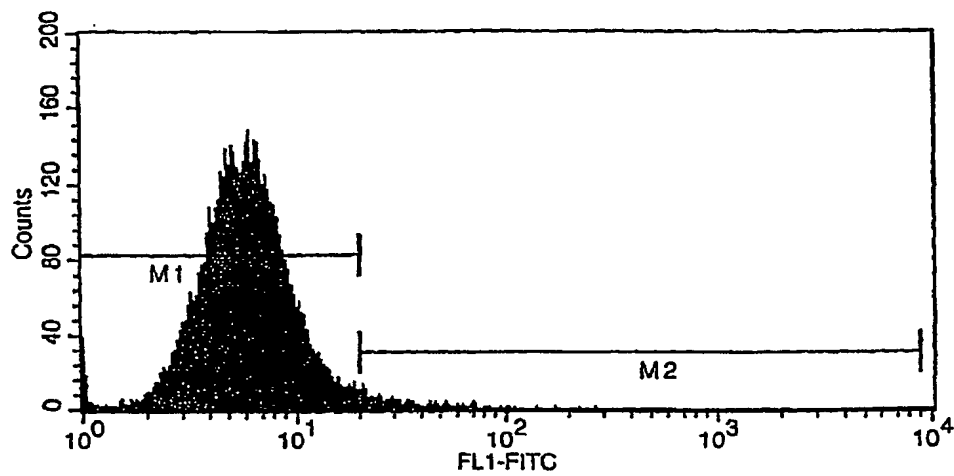


Figure 17B

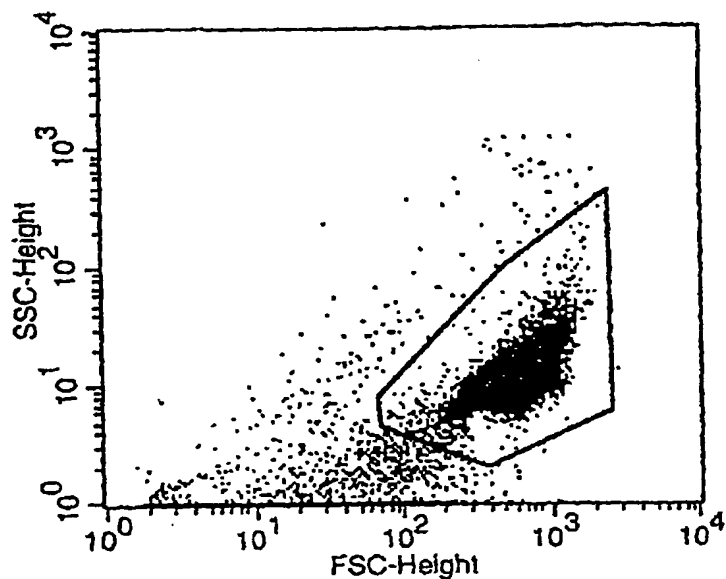


Figure 17C

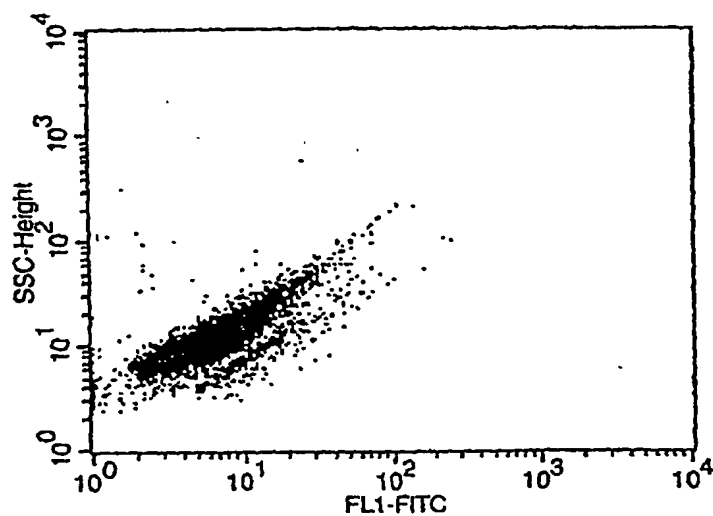


Figure 18A

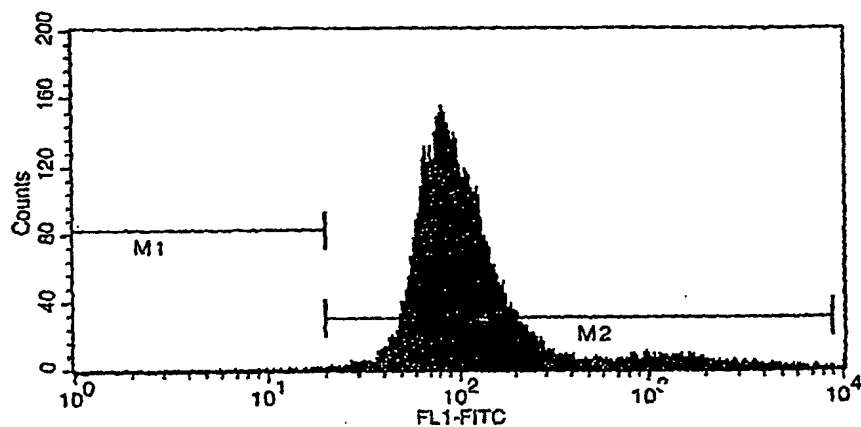
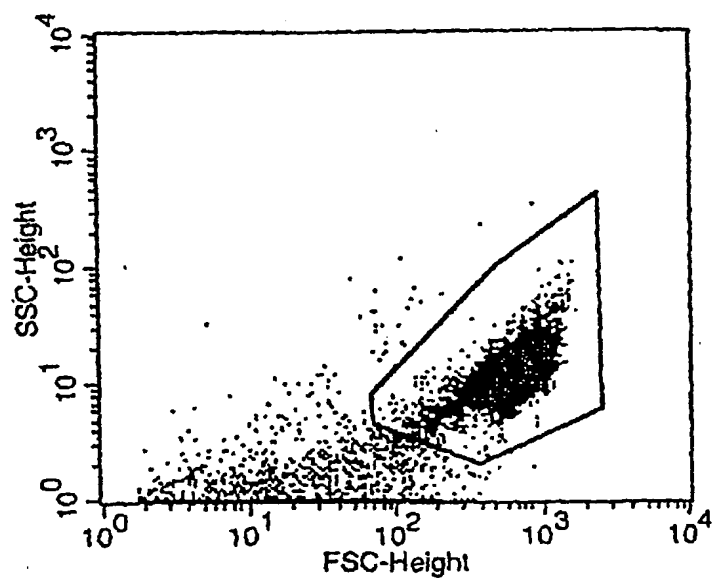


Figure 18B



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Figure 18C

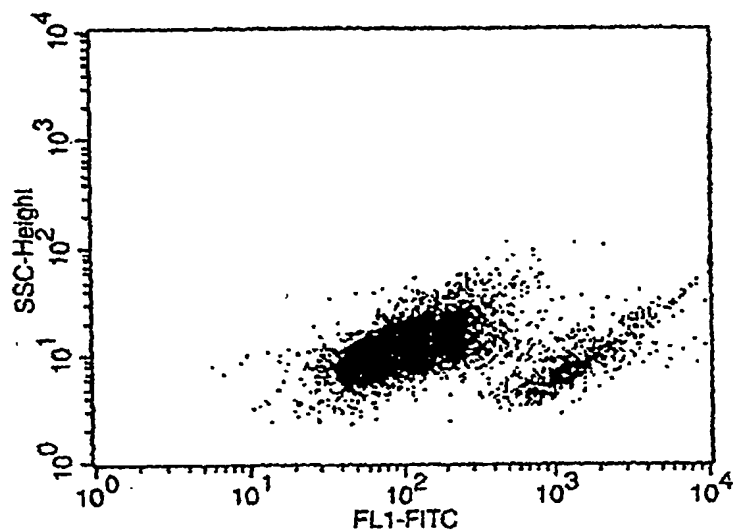


Figure 19A

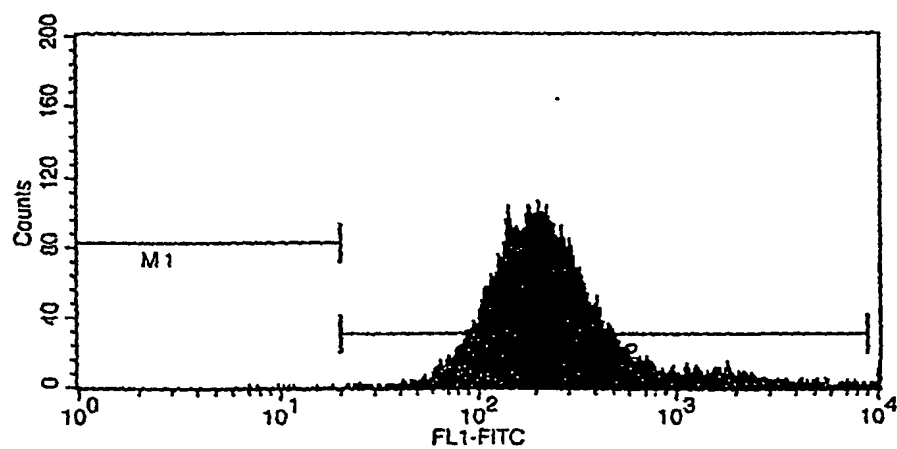


Figure 19B

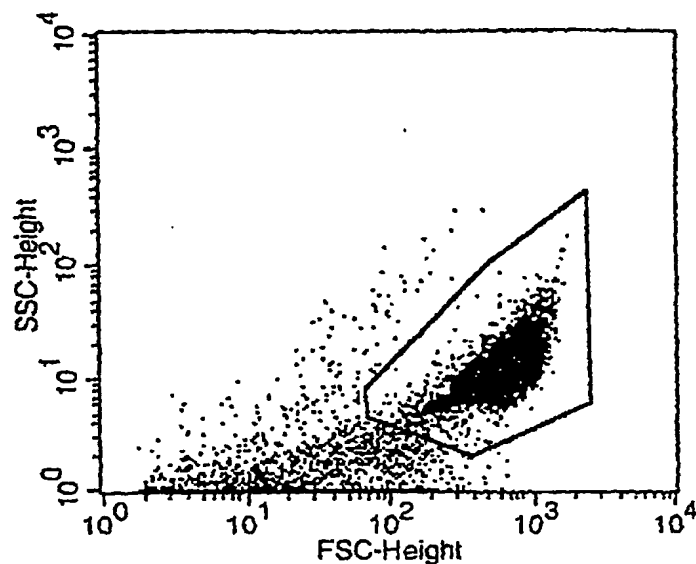


Figure 19C

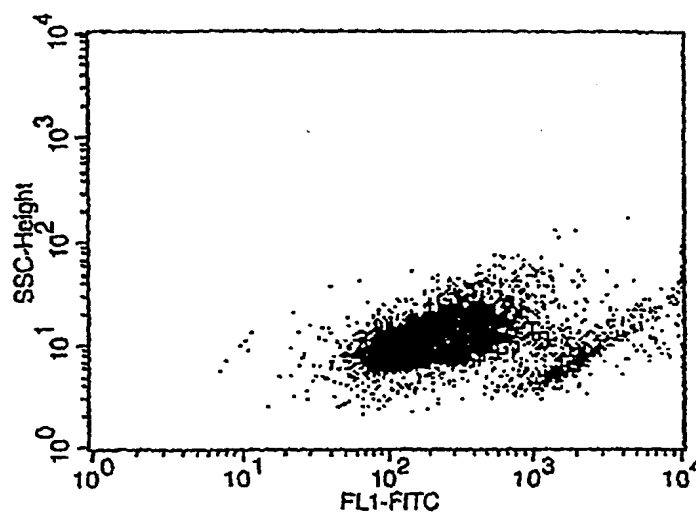


Figure 20

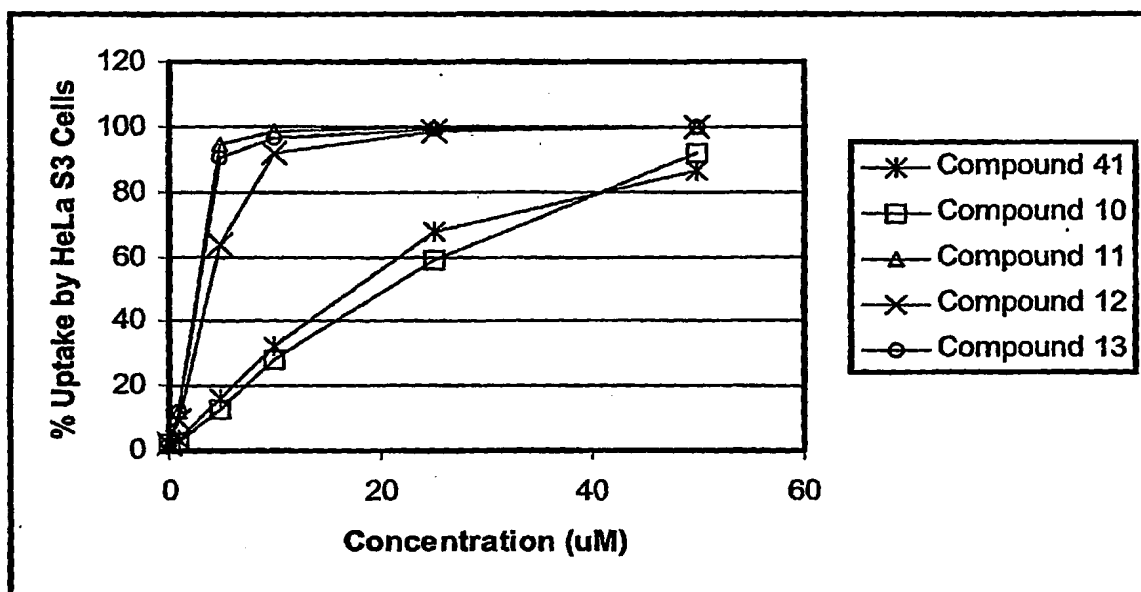


Figure 21

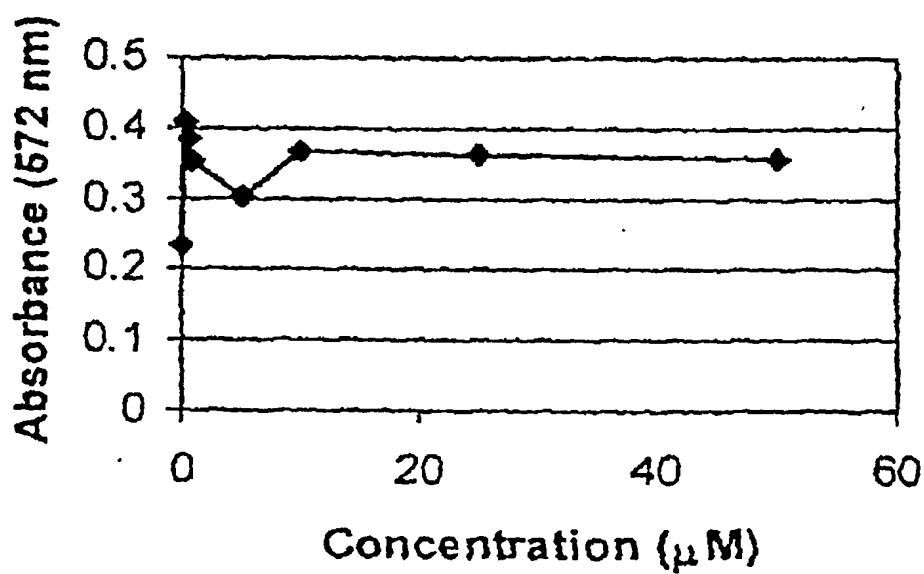


Figure 22A

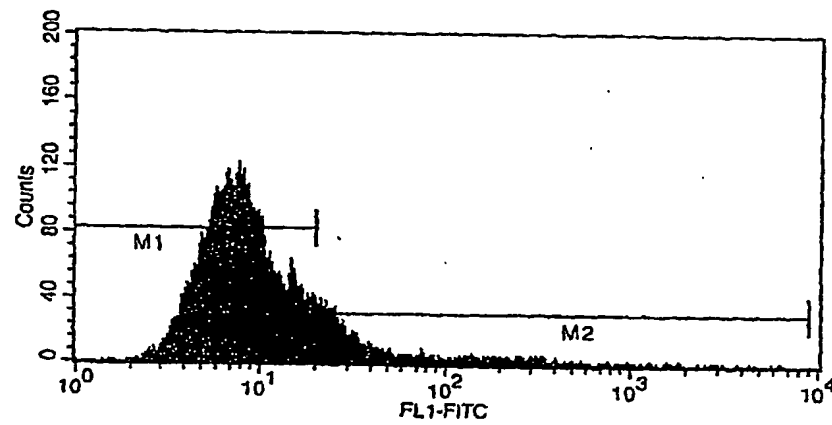


Figure 22B

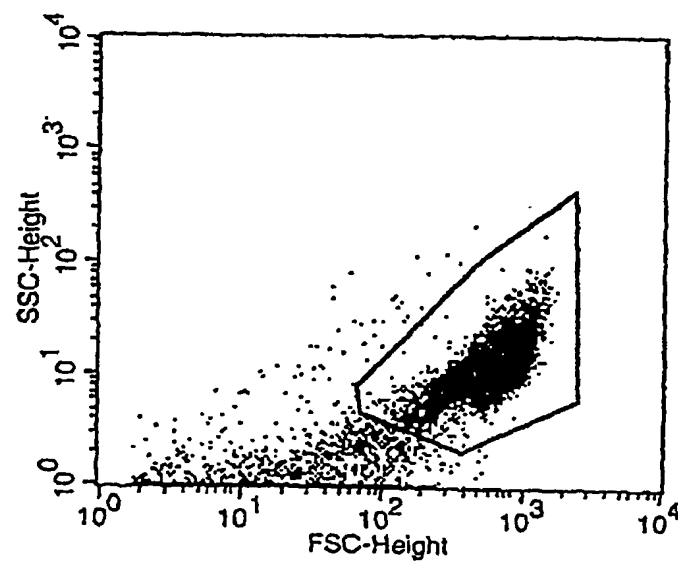


Figure 22C

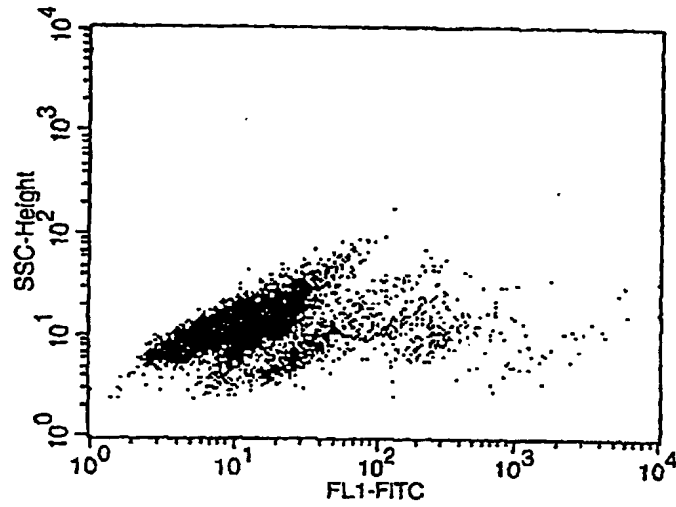


Figure 23A

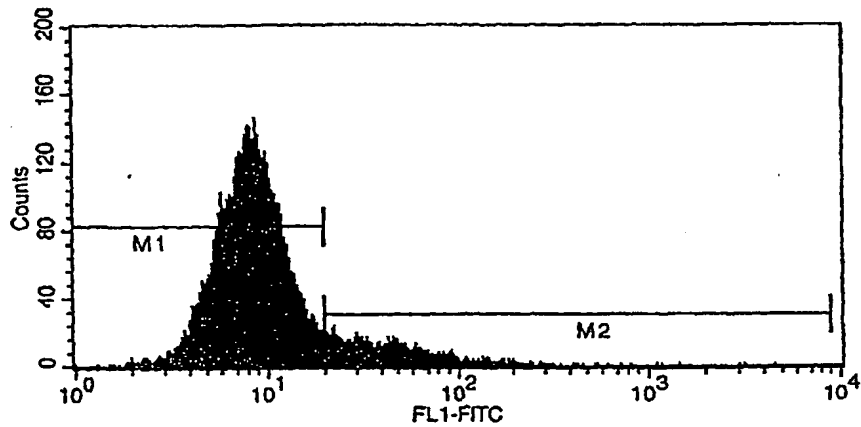


Figure 23B

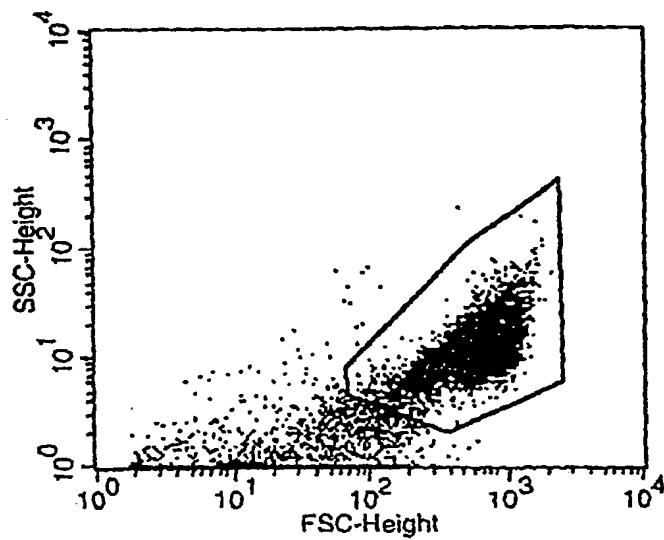


Figure 23C

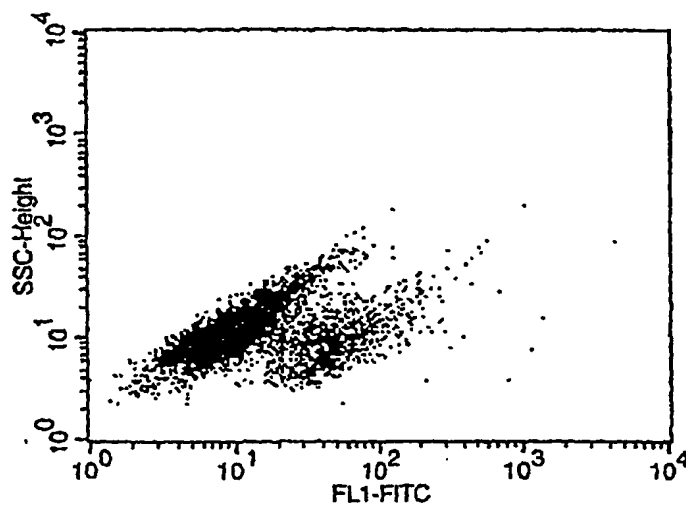


Figure 24A

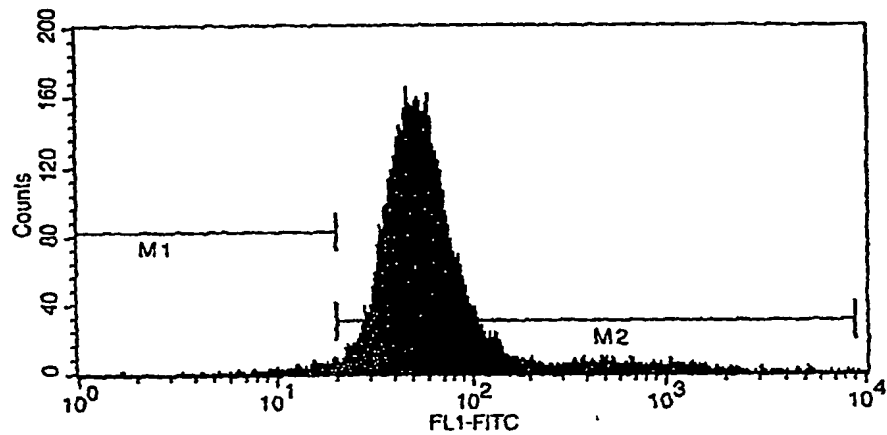


Figure 24B

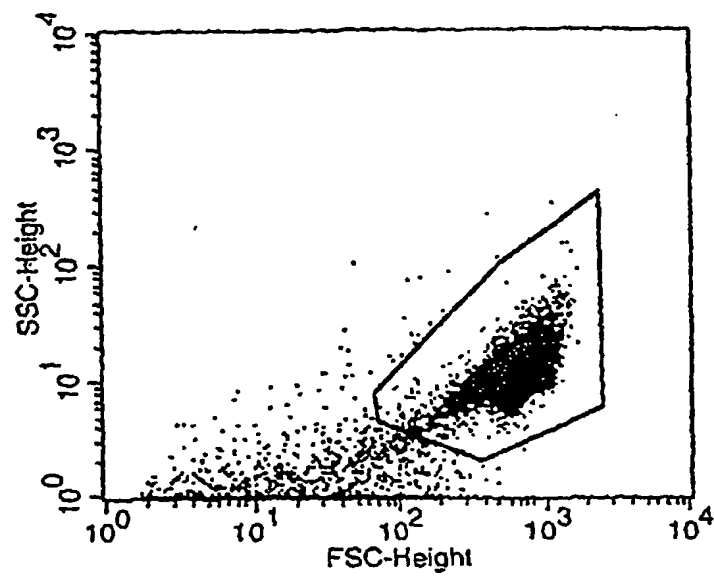


Figure 24C

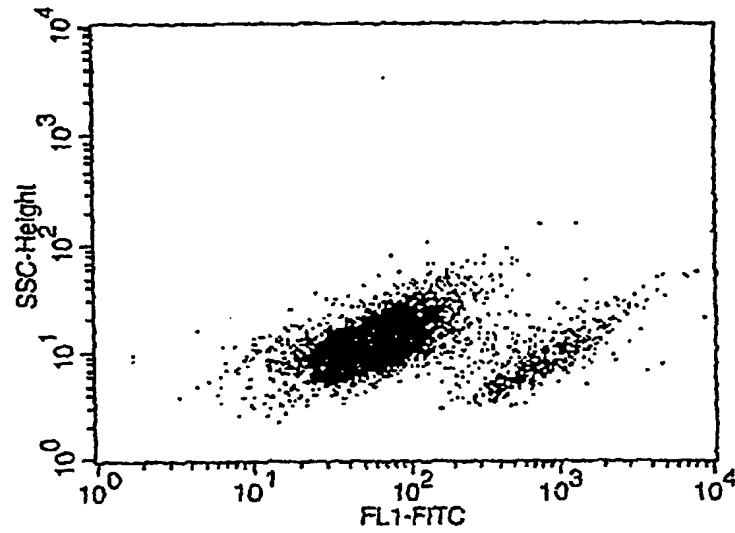


Figure 25A

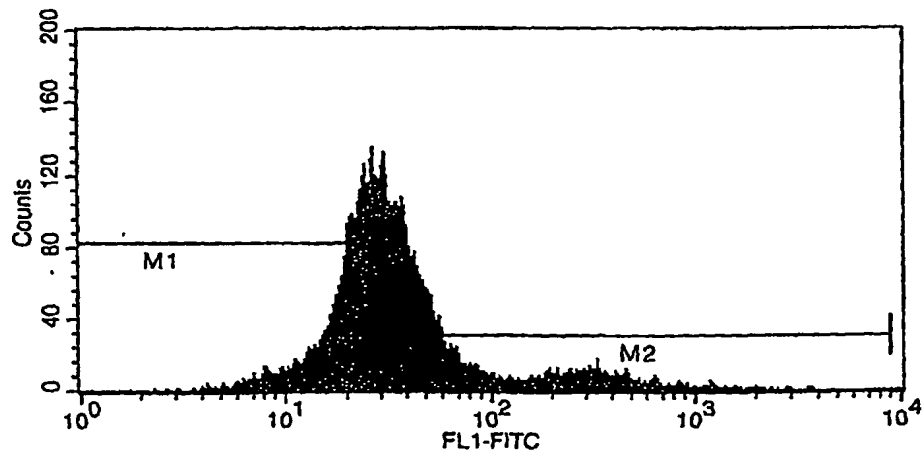


Figure 25B

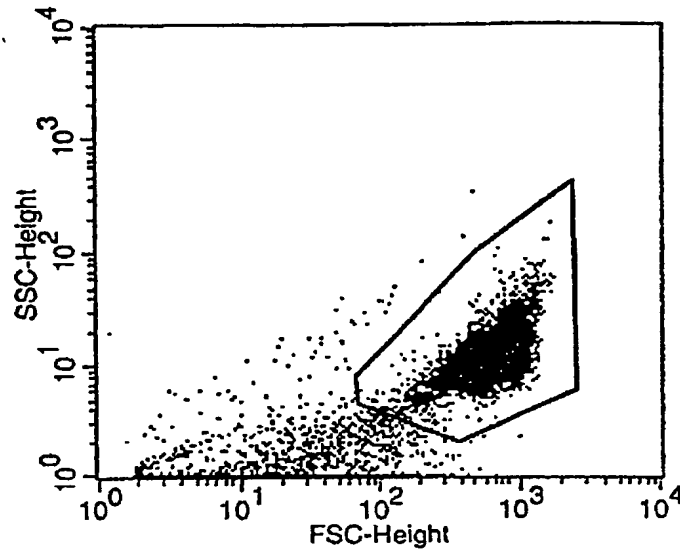


Figure 25C

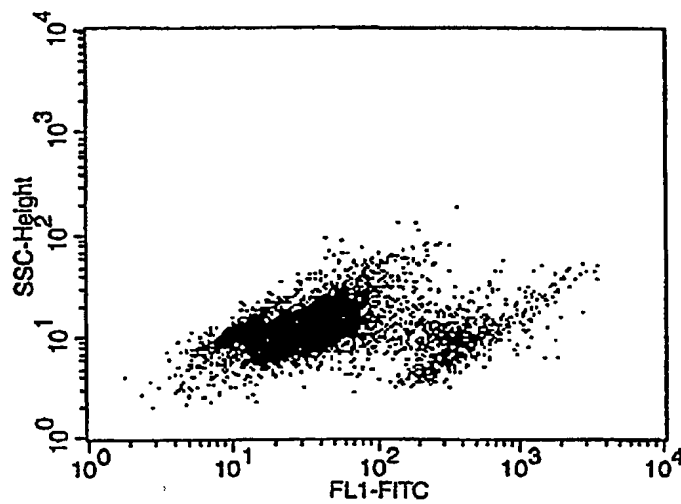


Figure 26A

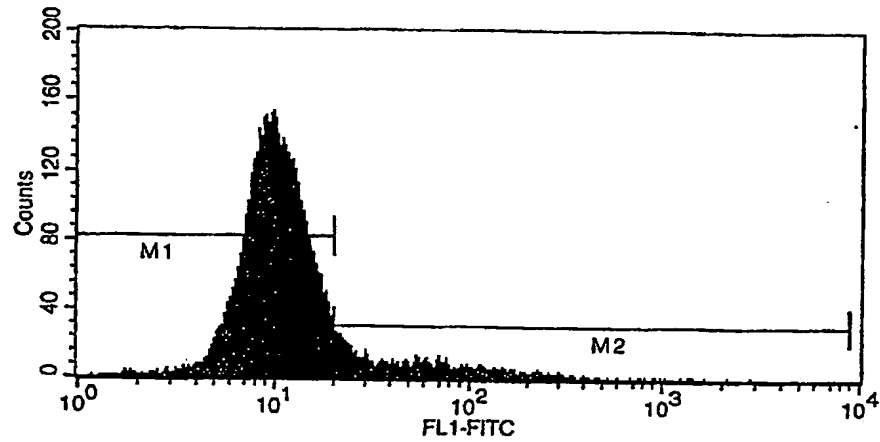


Figure 26B

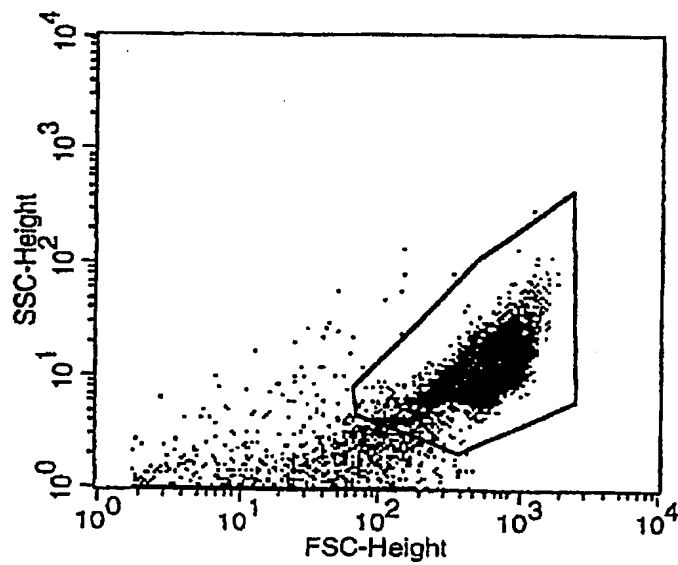


Figure 26C

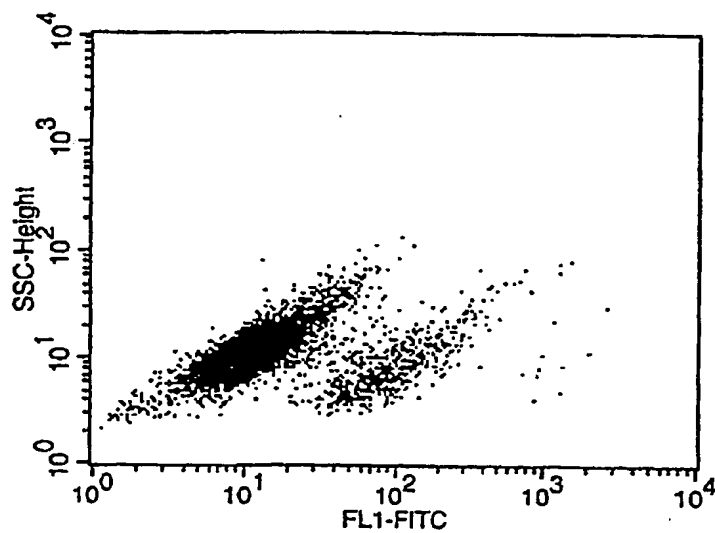
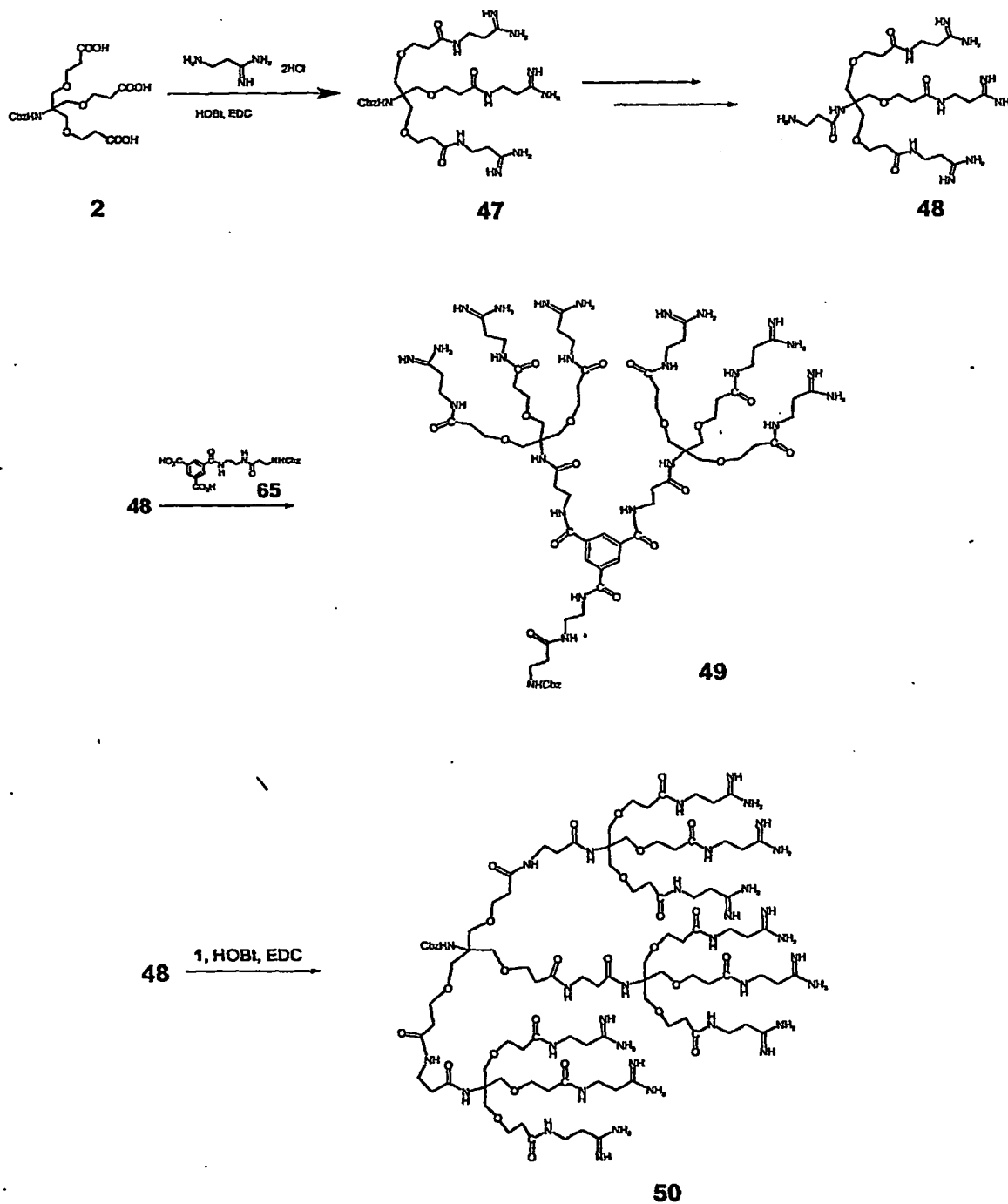


Figure 27



[illegible]

Figure 29

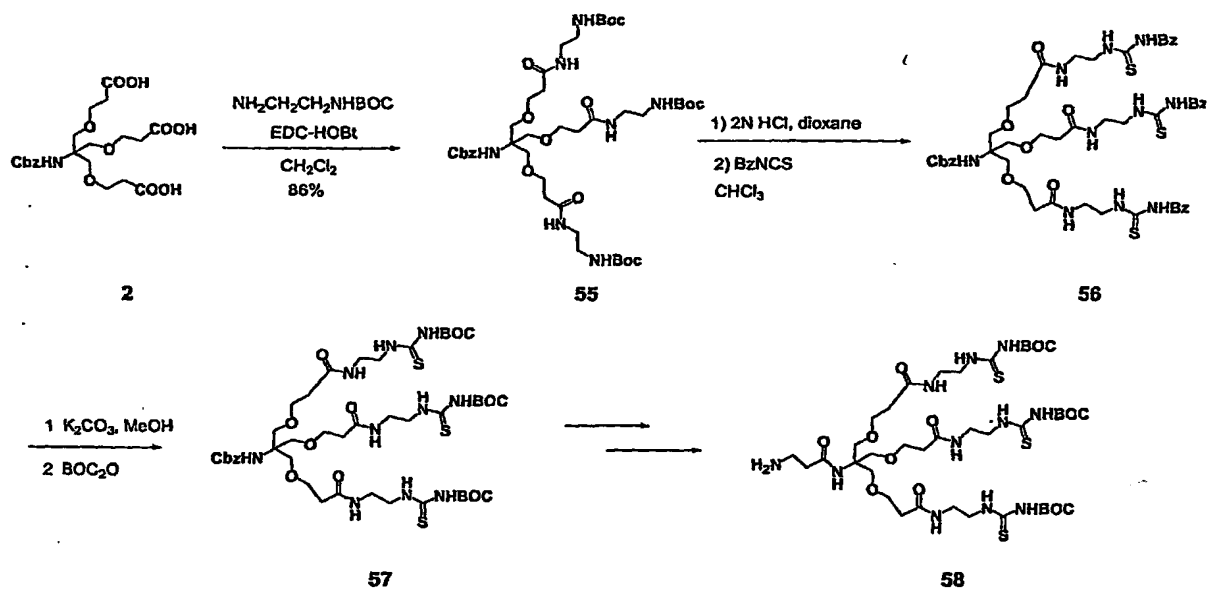
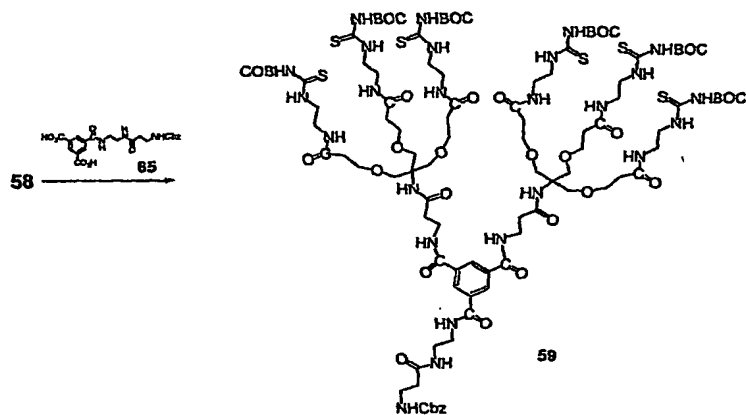


Figure 30



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Figure 31

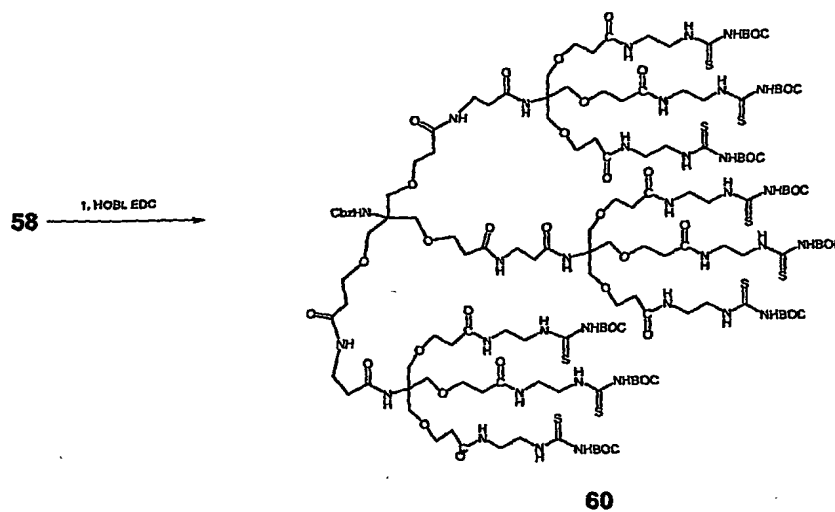


Figure 32

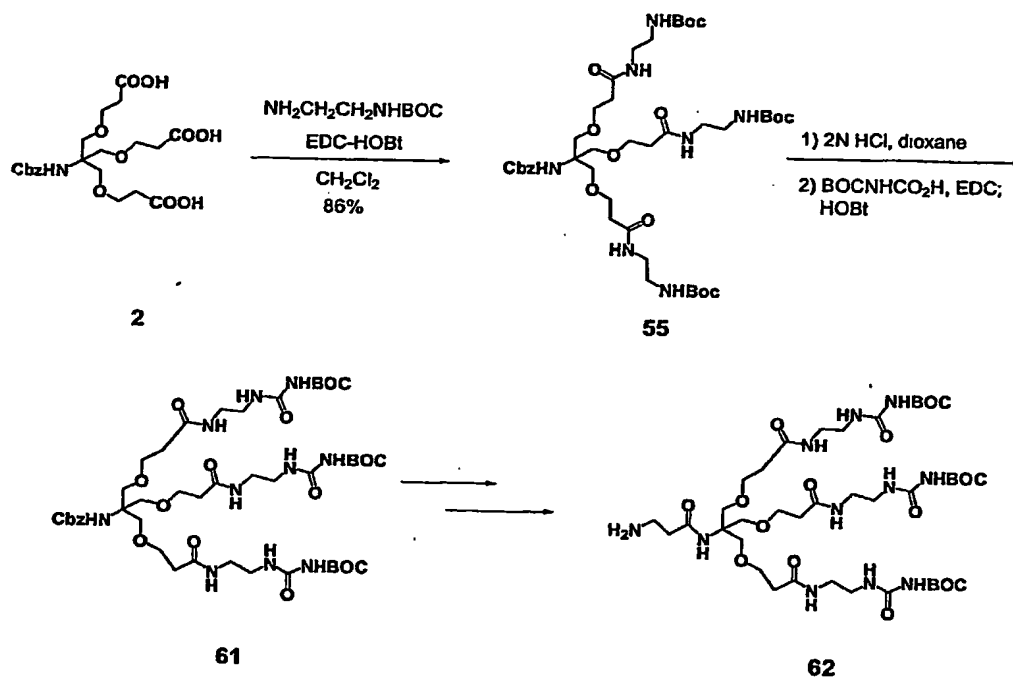


Figure 33

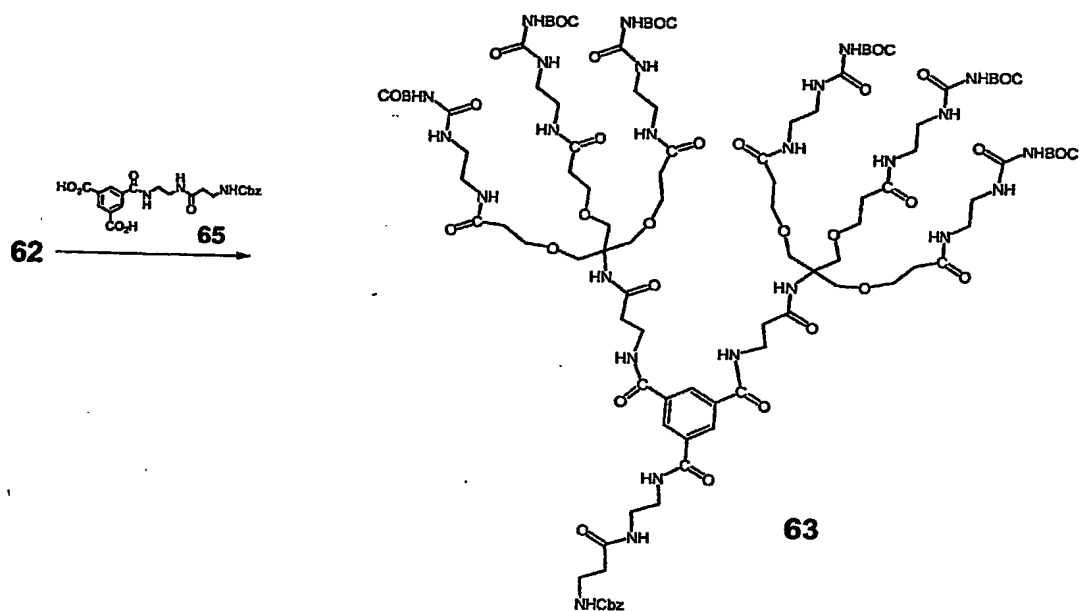


Figure 34

